MARVEL

EPIC COLLECTION

PLANET OF THE APES ADVENTURES

THE ORIGINAL MARVEL YEARS

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1975-1976

ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES #1-11

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ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES

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ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES

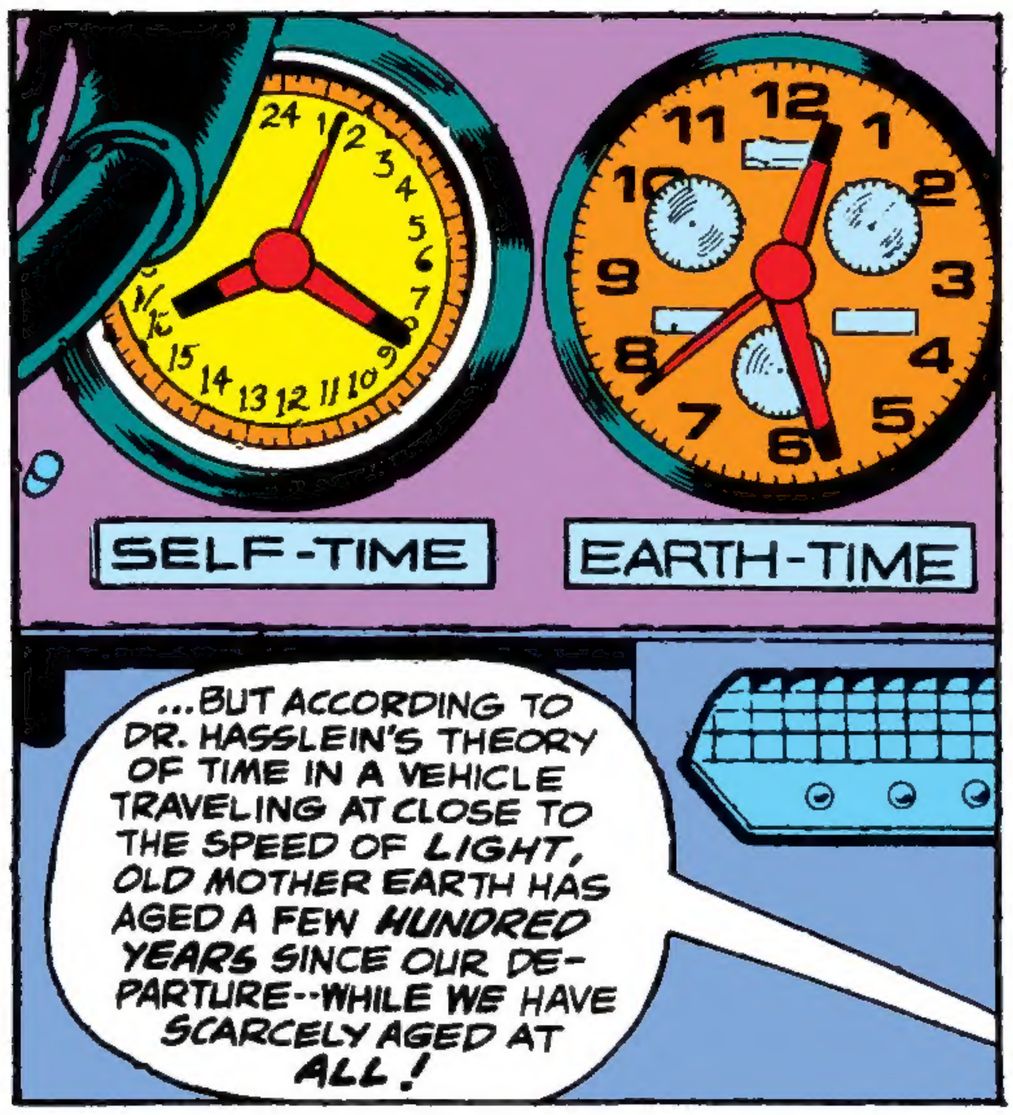
SENSES-SHATTERING FIRST ISSUE

BEGINNING NOW!

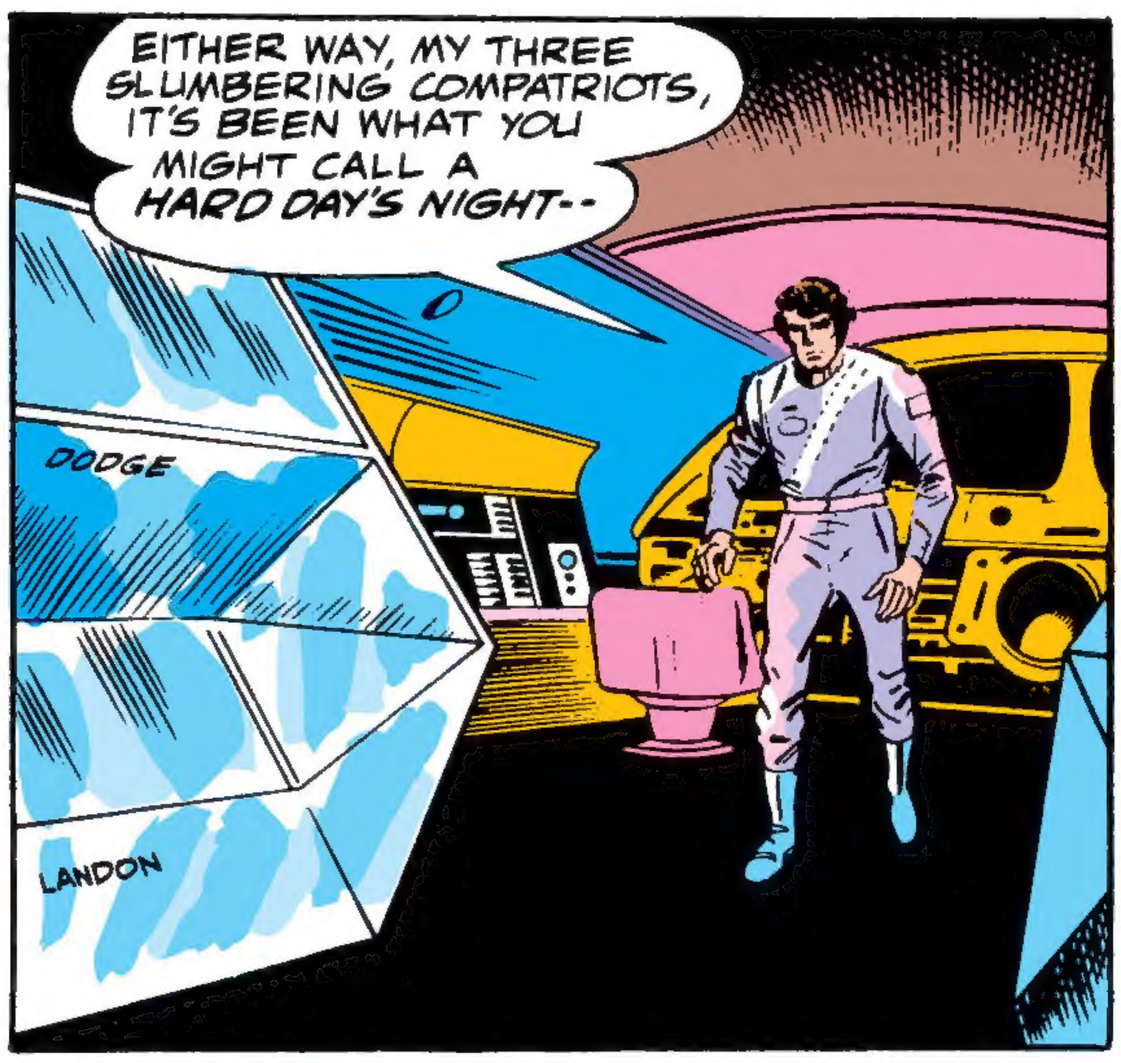
MIGHTY MARVEL'S ACTION-PACKED *ADAPTATION* OF--

"PLANET OF THE APES!"

STAN LEE PRESENTS PLANET OF THE APES! TM
BEGINNING: MARVEL COMICS' 6-PART ADAPTATION OF TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX'S SCIENCE-FICTION MASTERPIECE...
PLANET OF THE APES
STARS GLITTER LIKE FLOATING GEMS AGAINST THE BLACK VELVET BACKDROP OF SPACE. THE SHIMMERING BELT OF THE CONSTELLATION ORION SWEEPS ACROSS THE VOID WITH COLD MAJESTY.
AND AN INSIGNIFICANT SPECK OF LIGHT GLIDES SILENTLY THROUGH THE STYGIAN NOTHINGNESS. THE SPECK IS A SHIP... AND AS SUCH REPRESENTS MAN'S GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO DATE...
... A FLIGHT TO THE STARS!
THE SHIP'S CAPTAIN SPEAKS:
"SO ENDS MY LAST SIGNAL UNTIL WE REACH OUR DESTINATION. WE ARE NOW ON AUTOMATIC DRIVE, A MERE ONE-HUNDRED-FIVE LIGHT YEARS FROM OUR BASE... AND AT THE MERCY OF EMOTIONLESS COMPUTERS. I'VE TUCKED IN MY CREW FOR THE LONG SLEEP. I'LL JOIN THEM PRESENTLY..."
...FOR, WITHIN THE HOUR WE SHALL COMPLETE THE SIXTH MONTH OF OUR FLIGHT FROM CAPE KENNEDY...
BY OUR TIME, THAT IS...


SELF-TIME
EARTH-TIME
...BUT ACCORDING TO DR. HASSLEIN'S THEORY OF TIME IN A VEHICLE TRAVELING AT CLOSE TO THE SPEED OF LIGHT, OLD MOTHER EARTH HAS AGED A FEW HUNDRED YEARS SINCE OUR DEPARTURE--WHILE WE HAVE SCARCELY AGED AT ALL!

DR. HASSLEIN'S THEORY MAY BE CORRECT. BUT THIS MUCH IS CERTAIN: THE MEN WHO SENT US ON THIS JOURNEY HAVE LONG SINCE MOULDERED IN FORGOTTEN GRAVES...
...AND THOSE, IF ANY, WHO WILL RECEIVE THIS MESSAGE ARE OF A DIFFERENT BREED. HOPEFULLY, A BETTER ONE.


EITHER WAY, MY THREE SLUMBERING COMPATRIOTS, IT'S BEEN WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL A HARD DAY'S NIGHT--
DODGE
LANDON

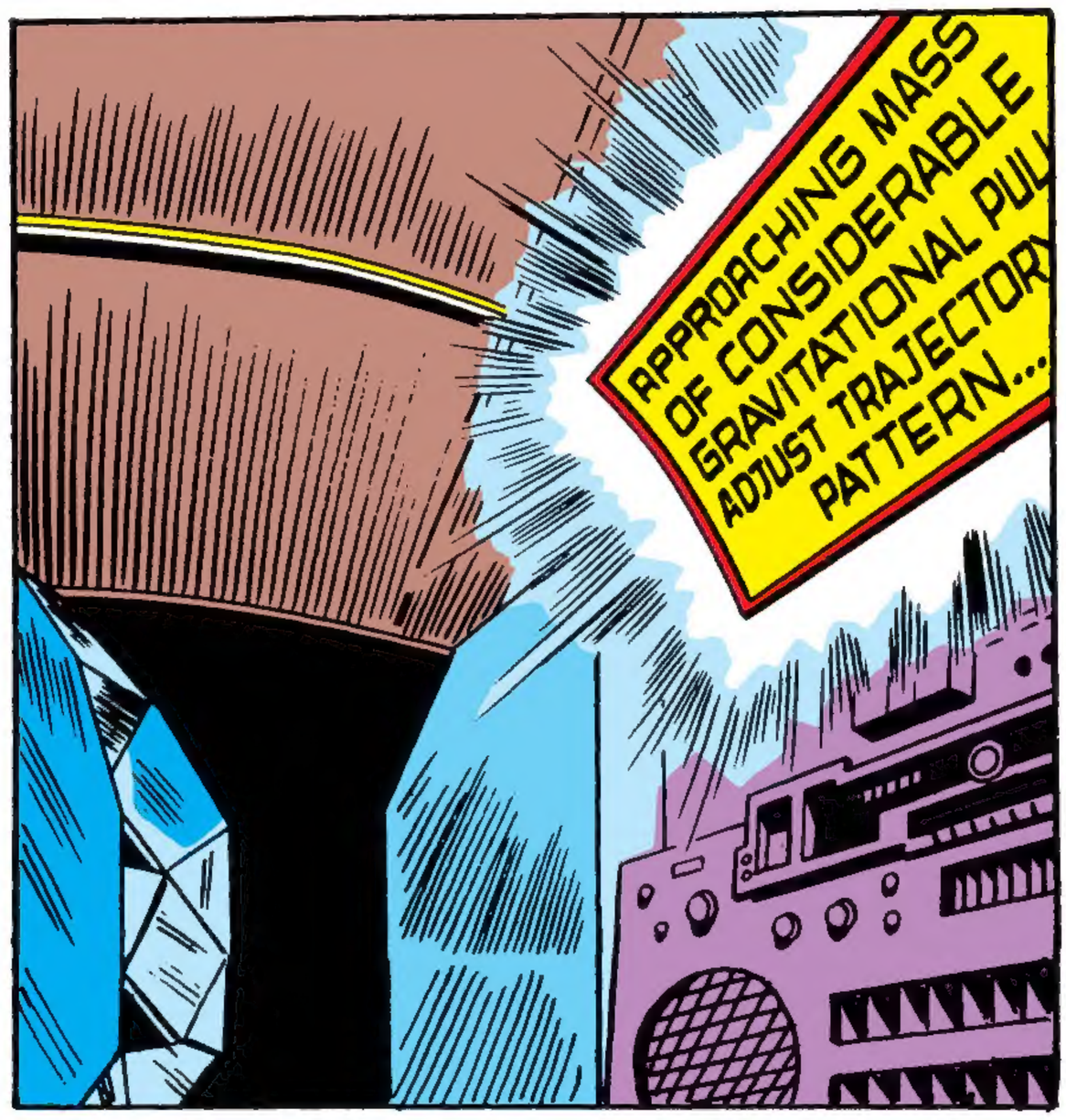
--AND TIME TO JOIN YOU IN HITTING THE GLASS SACK!
LANDON
STEWART

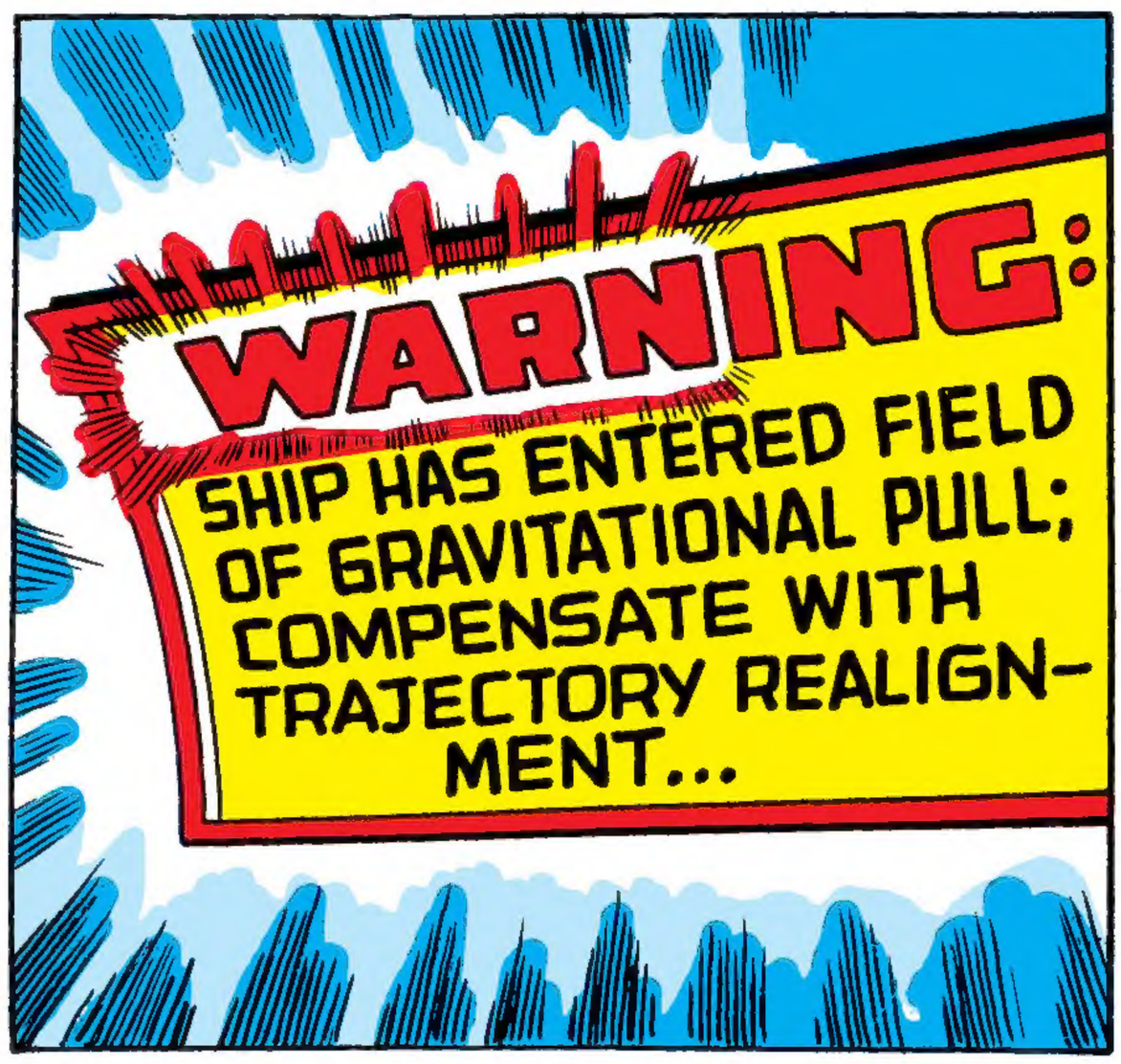
THE ALARM'LL GO OFF WHEN WE REACH OUR DESTINATION...

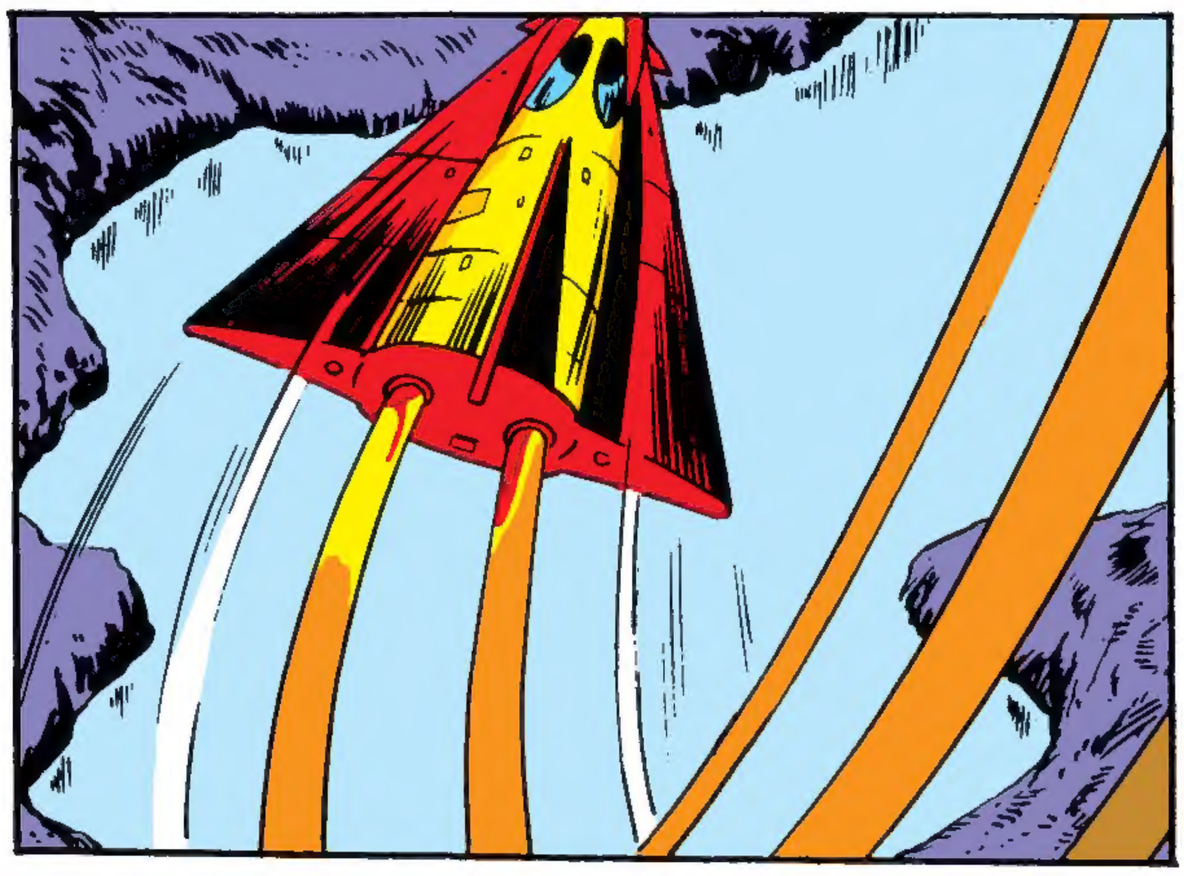
SO PLEASANT DREAMS, DODGE...LANDON...
...AND, OF COURSE, STEWART.

TAYLOR

TAYLOR

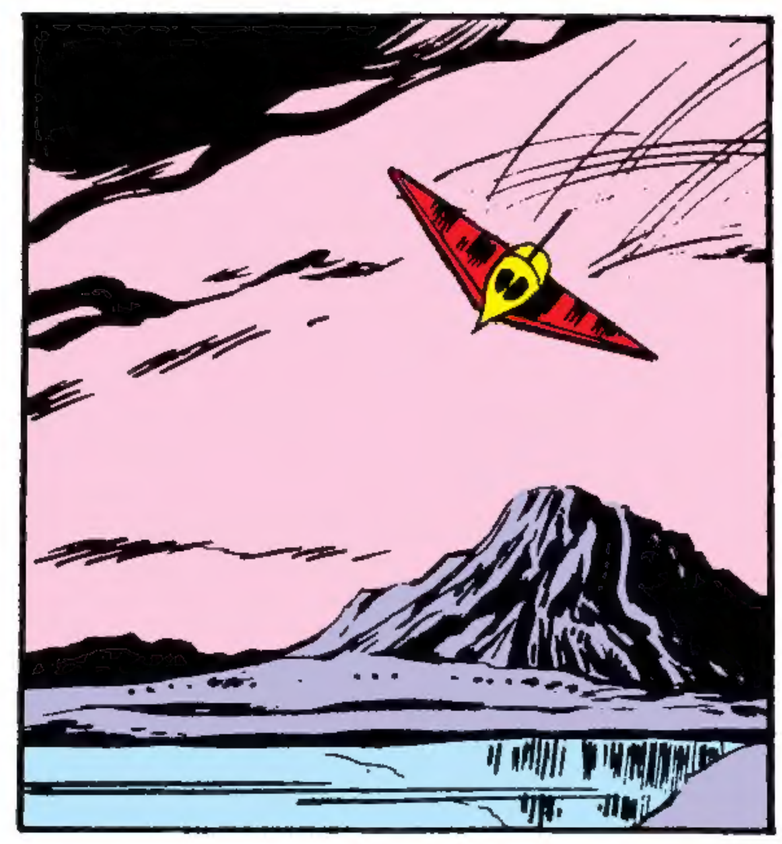

APPROACHING MASS OF CONSIDERABLE GRAVITATIONAL PULL ADJUST TRAJECTORY PATTERN...

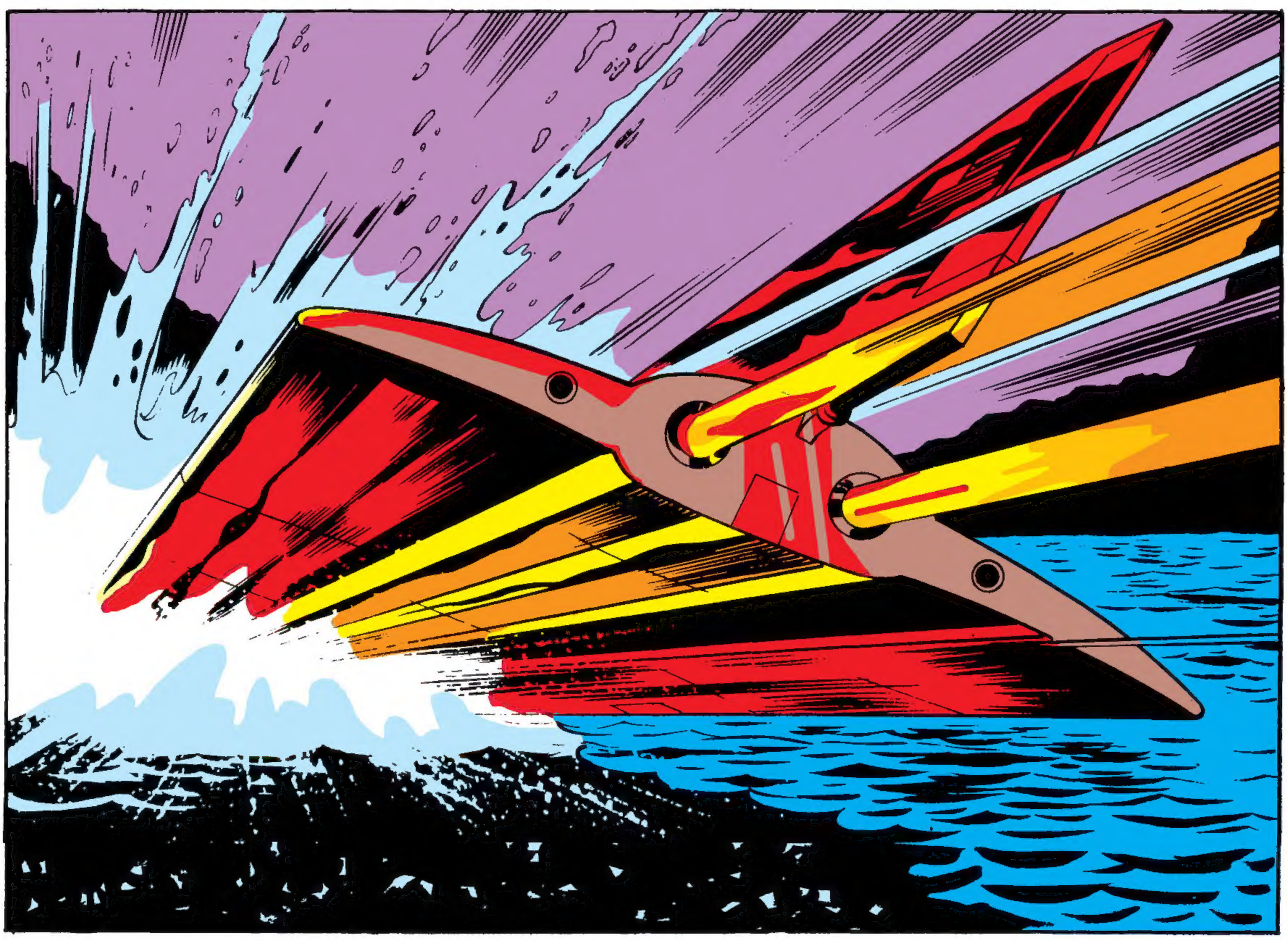

WARNING:
SHIP HAS ENTERED FIELD OF GRAVITATIONAL PULL; COMPENSATE WITH TRAJECTORY REALIGN-MENT...

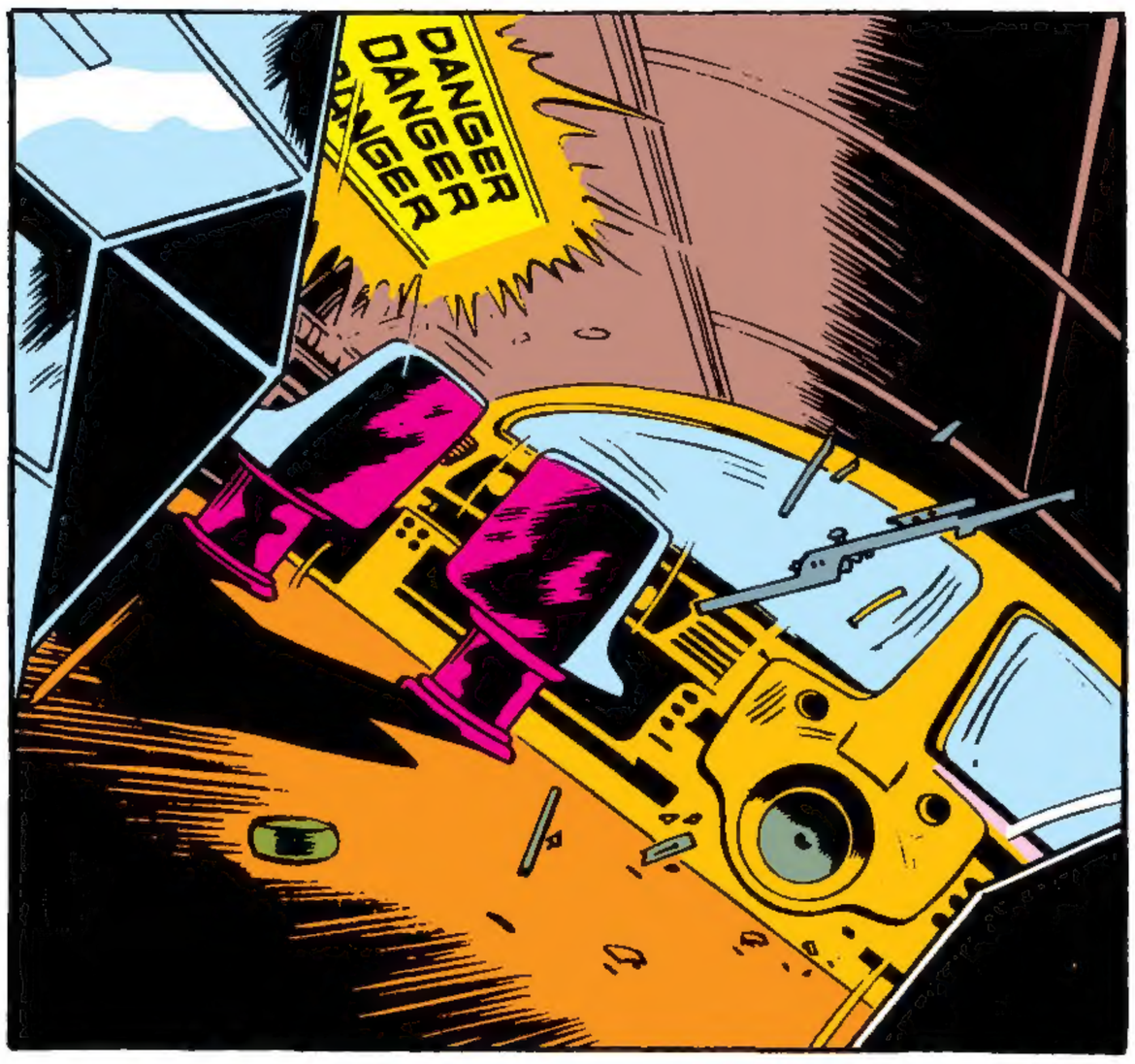


DANGER DANGER DANGER DANGER DANGER

STEWART






DANGER
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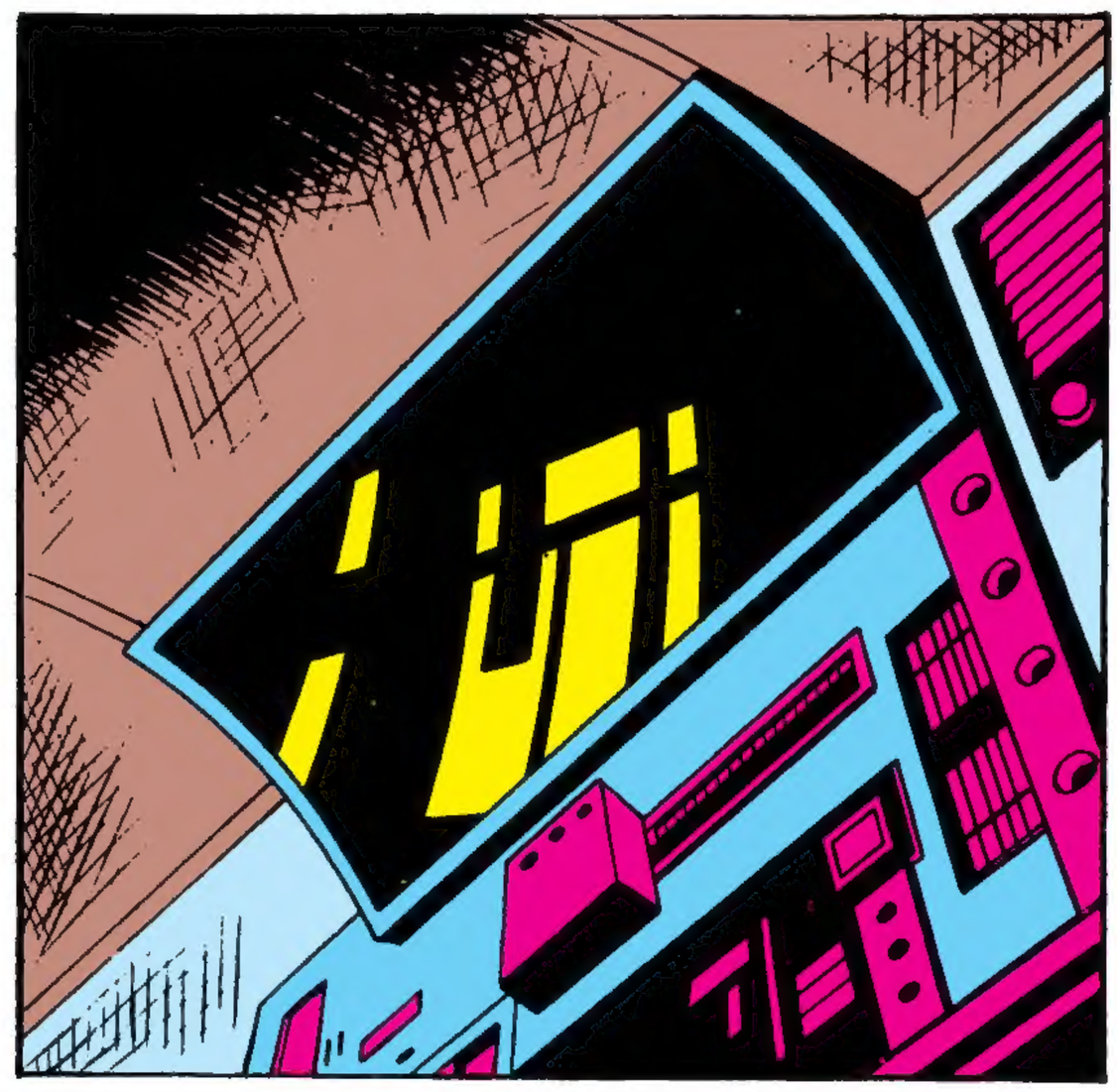
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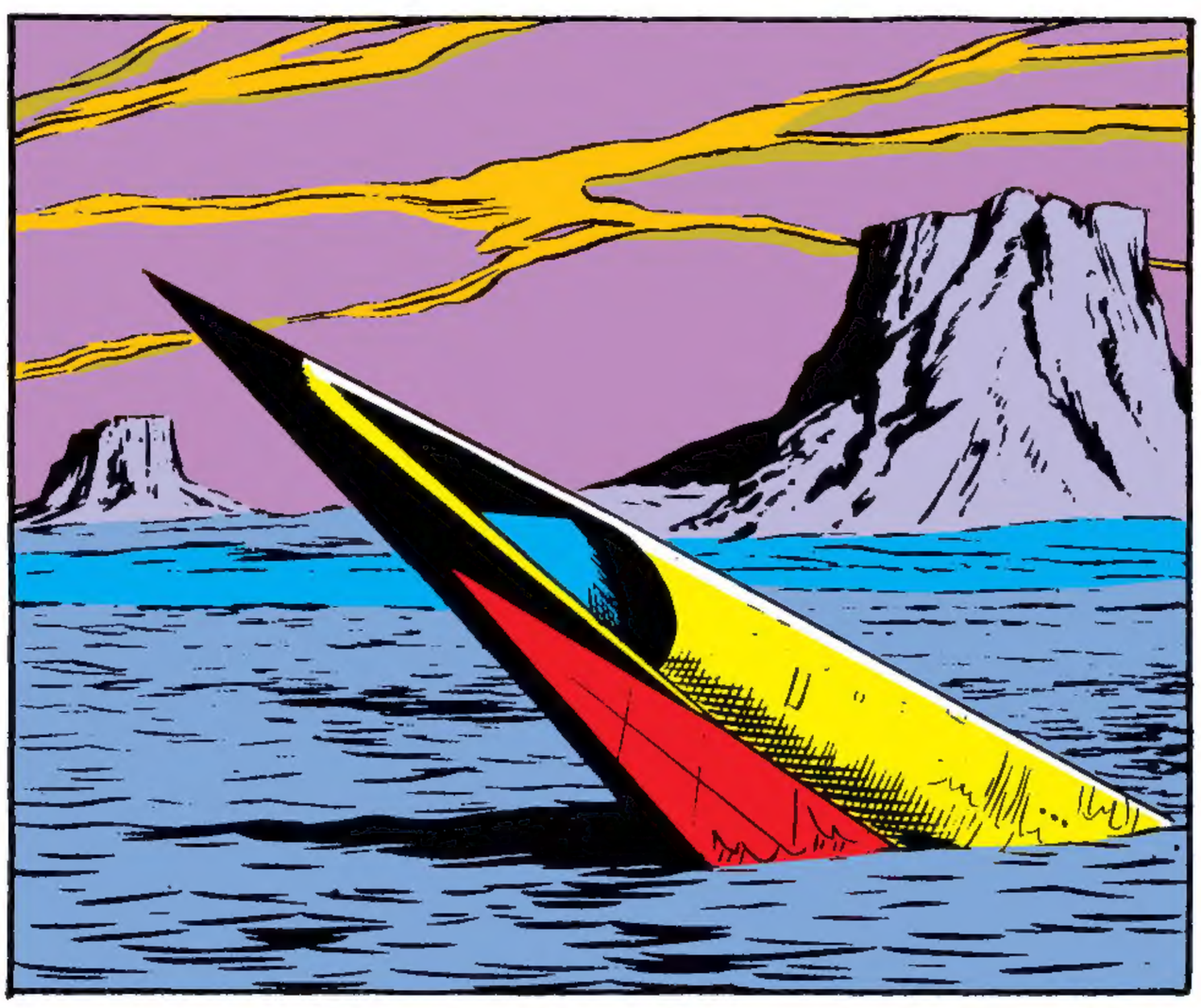
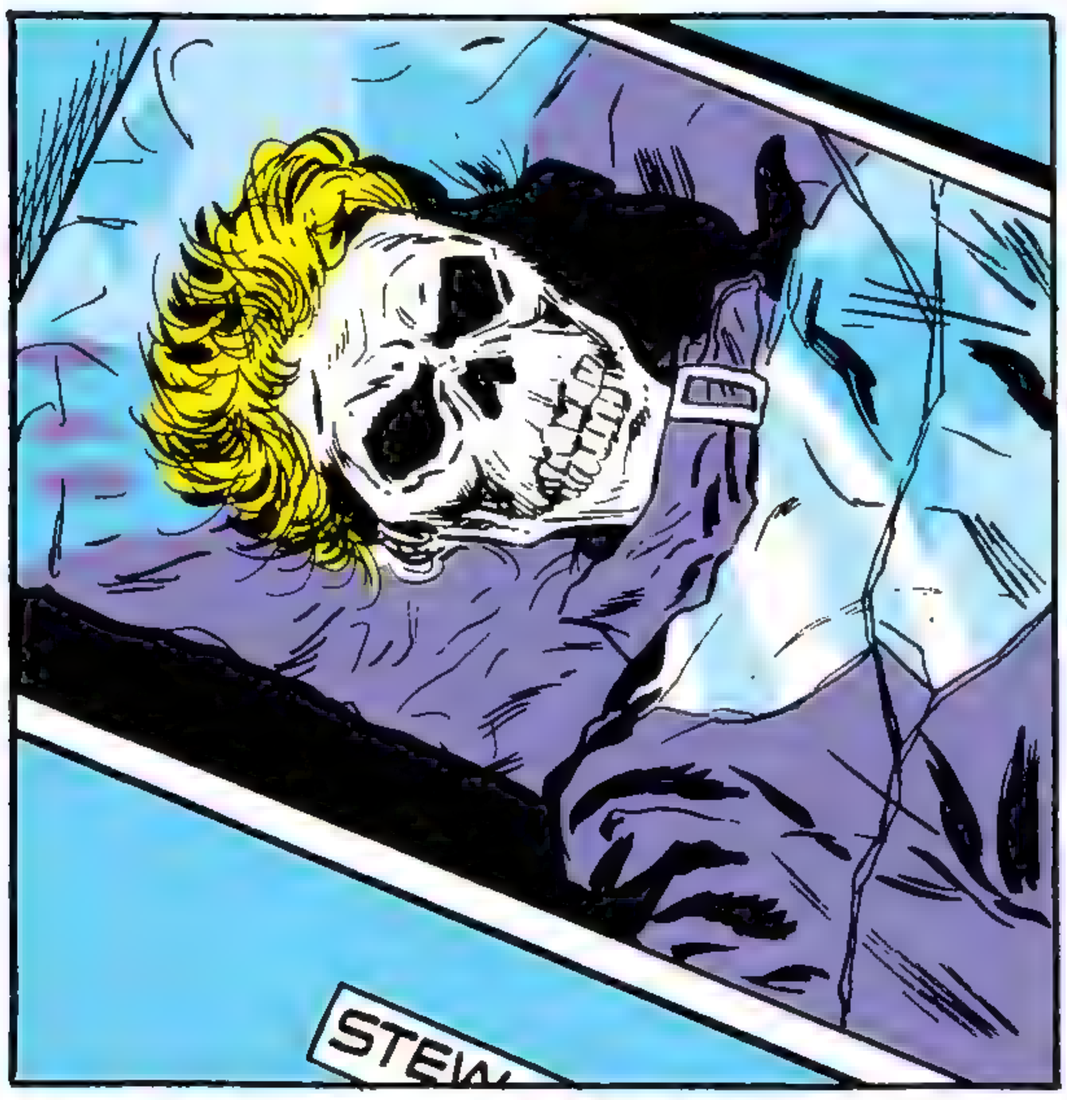


KLIK
KLIK
KLIK

SOME ALARM-CLOCK WE GOT ON THIS SHIP!
KLIK KLIK

YOU ALL RIGHT?
YEAH.
CHECK...BUT STEWART'S CAPSULE HASN'T OPENED!

OH...MY... GOD--!
WHAT IS IT, TAYLOR? WHAT'S WRONG--?!


STEW

THAT SETTLES IT--THREE ADAMS AND NO EVE...
THAT'S A HELL OF A THING TO SAY AT A--

THERE GOES OUR PRIMARY POWER-- WE'RE ON AUXILIARY NOW.

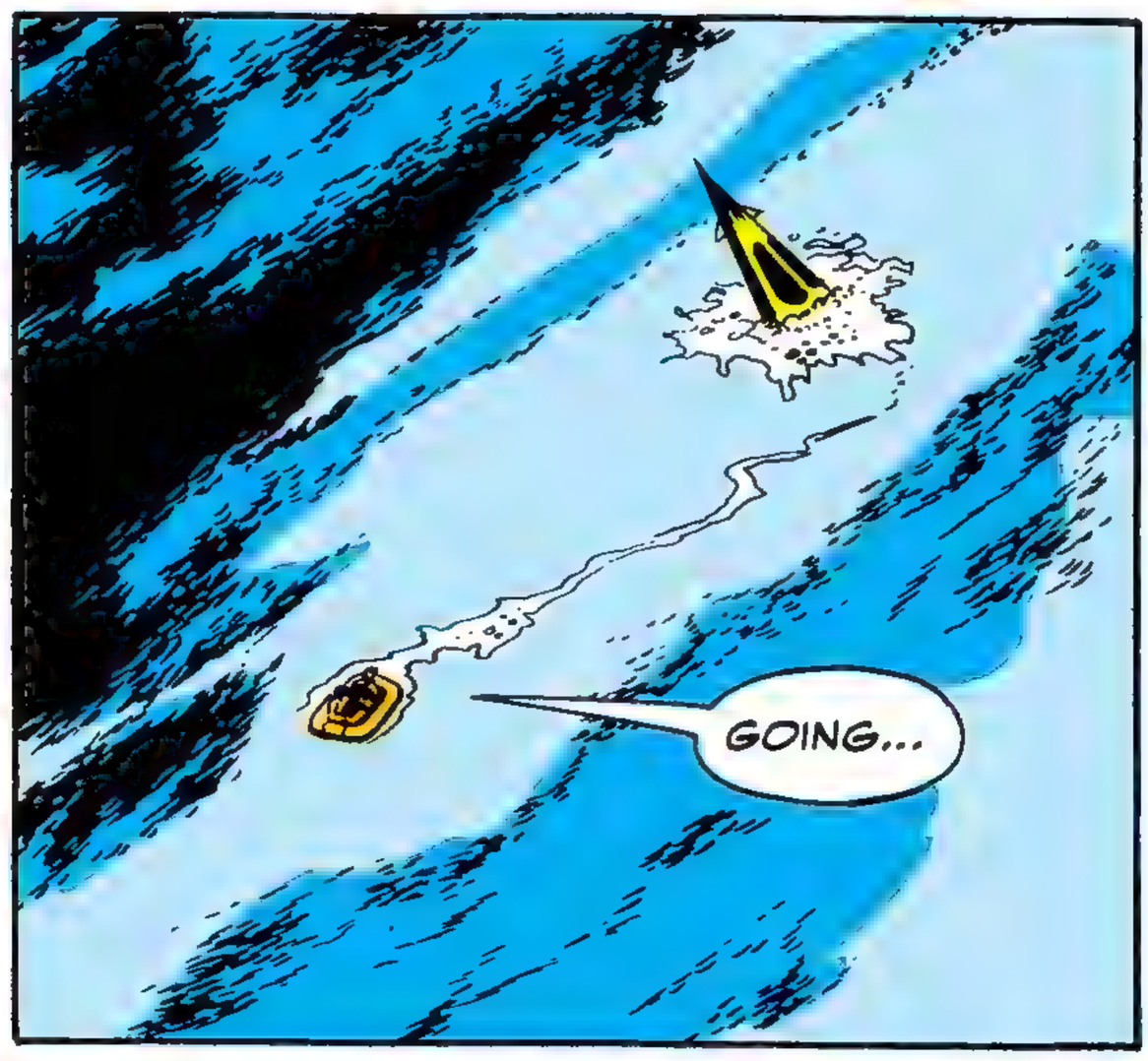
WATER--!
THAT'S WHAT IT'S CALLED, LANDON.
WE BETTER CHECK THE PORTHOLE...

WE'RE IN THE SOUP ALL RIGHT... AND SINKING FAST.
DODGE--TAKE A READING ON THE ATMOSPHERE! IT'S A CINCH WE WON'T BE ABLE TO STAY IN HERE AND BREATHE THE WATER.

IT'S BREATHABLE, TAYLOR.
OKAY THEN! BLOW THE HATCH BEFORE WE LOSE AUXILIARY POWER...

DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE EVER COMING, TAYLOR.
JUST SAYING GOODBYE TO THE SHIP, LANDON. AFTER ALL, WE HAVE HER TO THANK FOR GETTING US HERE...

YEAH... WHEREVER HERE IS.
THE WATER'S BRINY-- 25 PERCENT SALINITY. NEAR THE SATURATION POINT.
SHE'S STILL SINKING...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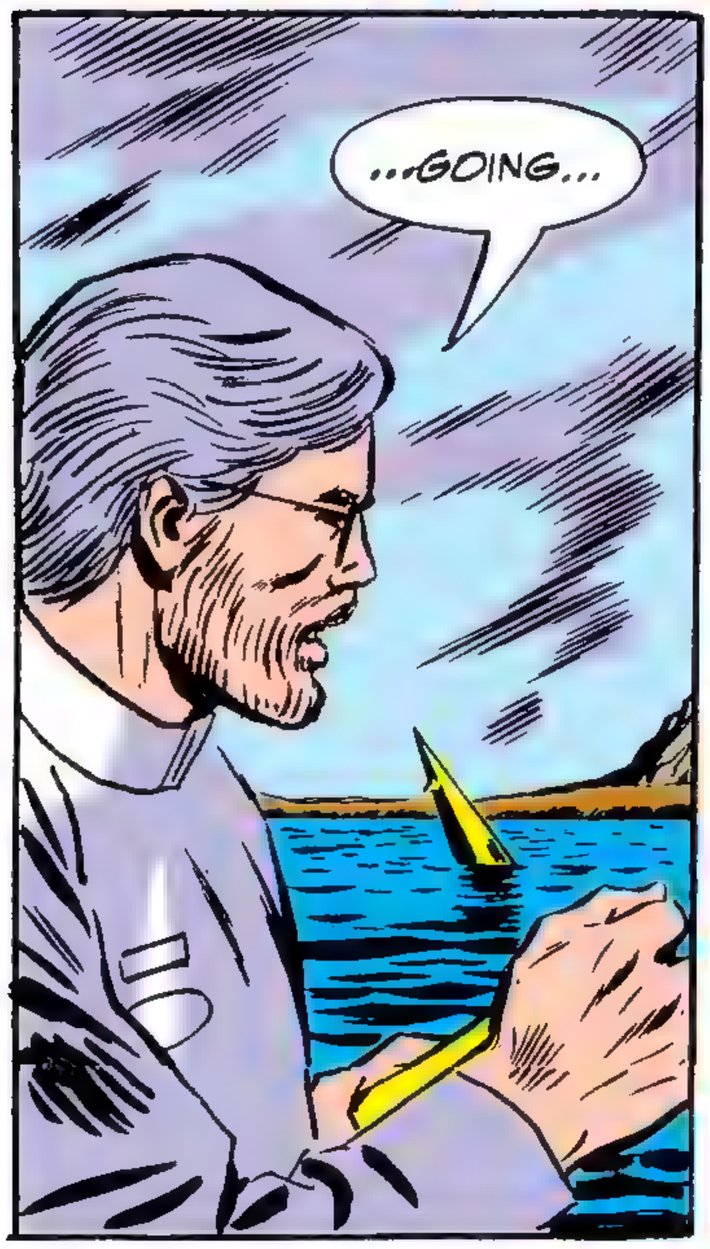
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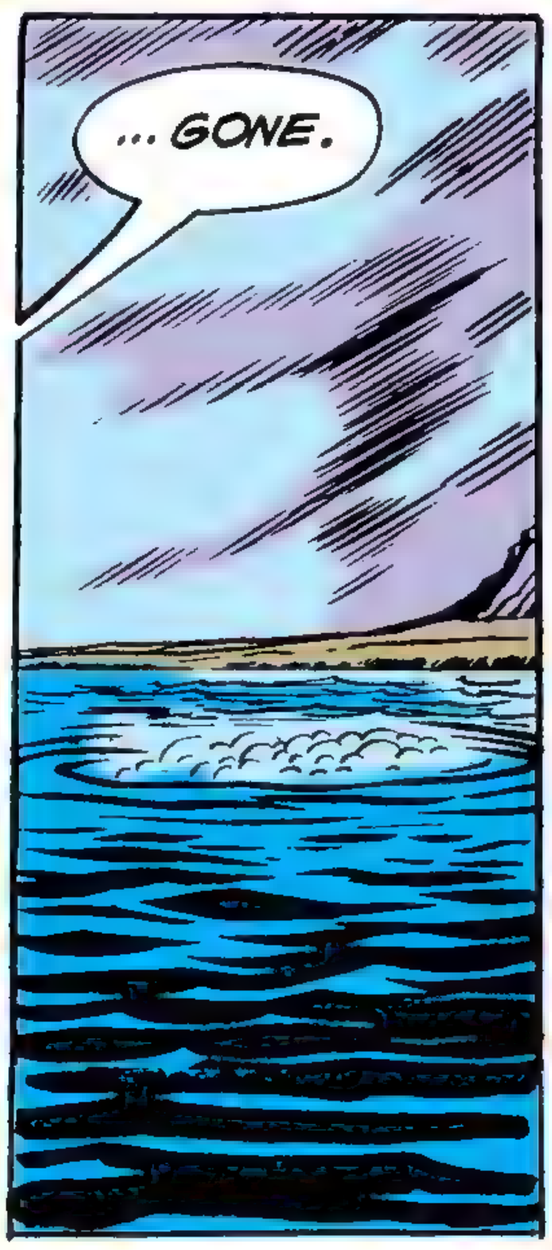
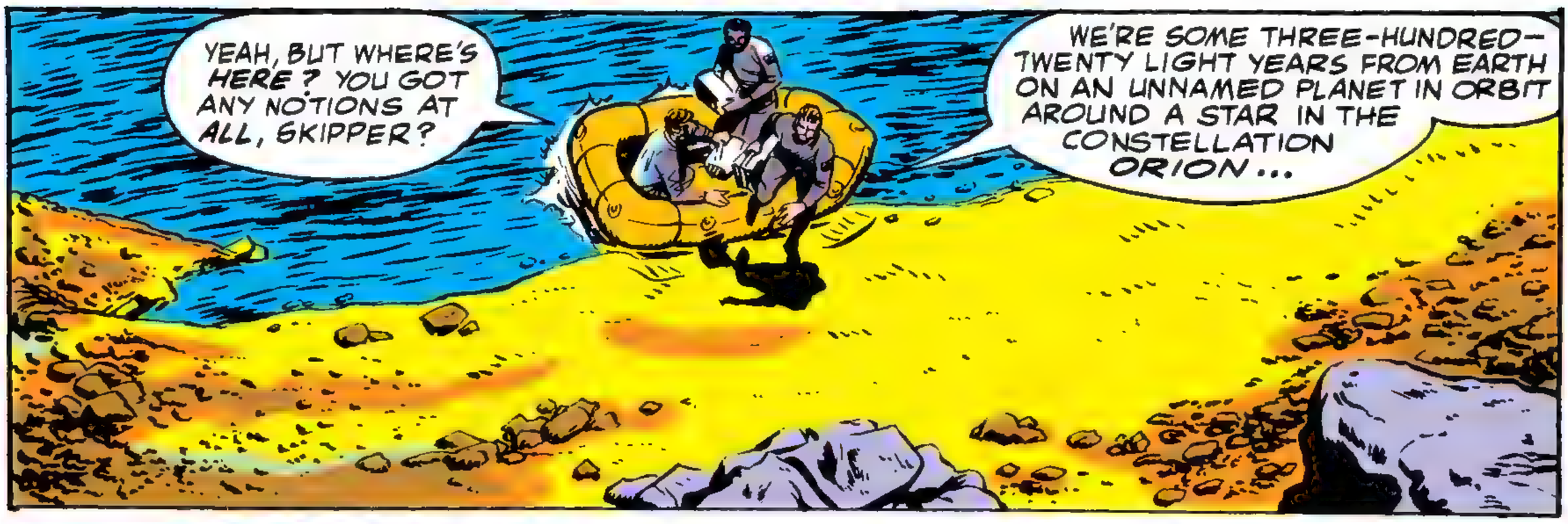

... GONE.

SOLD TO THE THREE EARTHMEN--ONE PLANET, HOPEFULLY SLIGHTLY USED. BECAUSE IF IT ISN'T, PALS, WE'RE ALL ALONE--
--AND WE'RE HERE TO STAY!

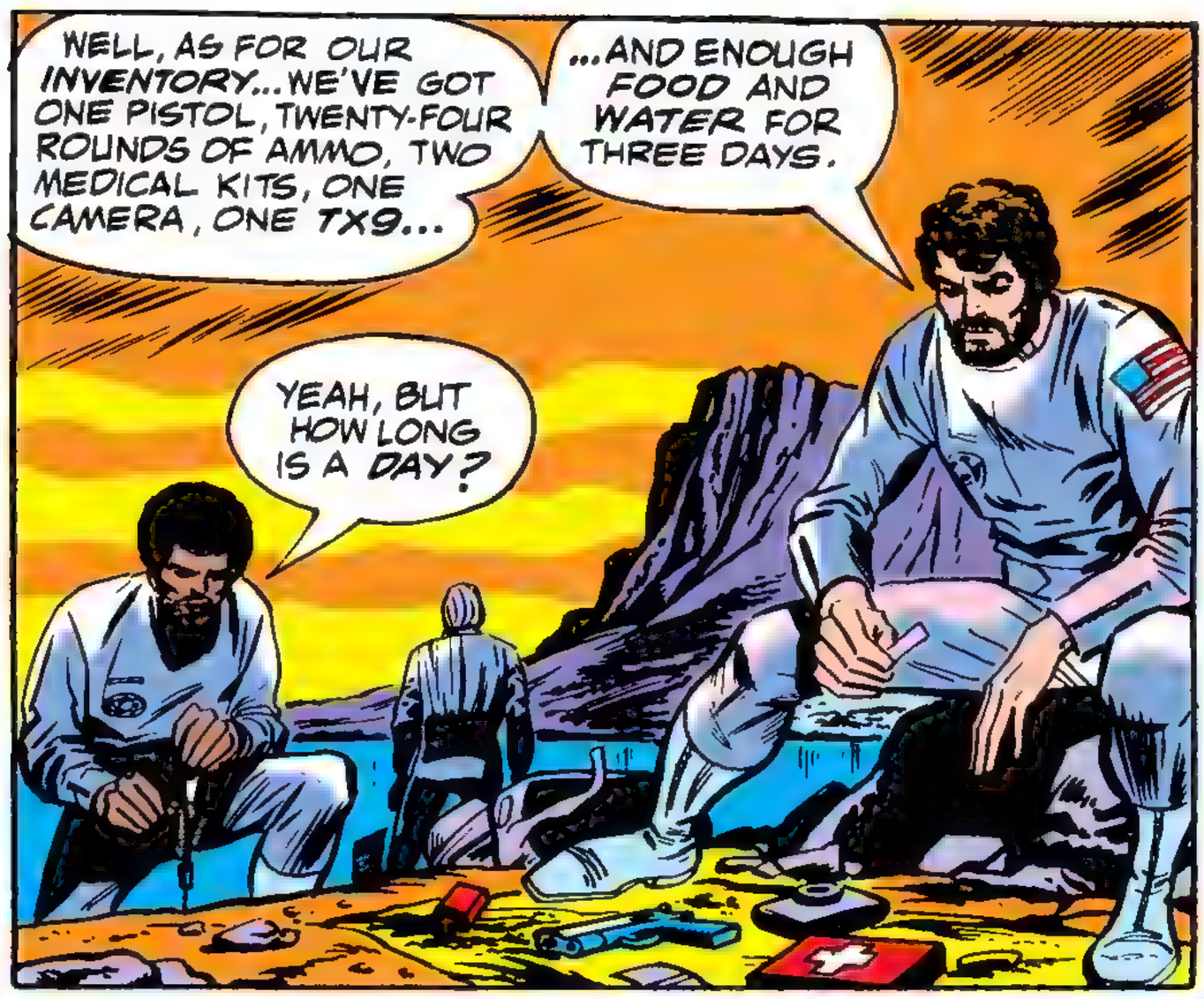

YEAH, BUT WHERE'S HERE? YOU GOT ANY NOTIONS AT ALL, SKIPPER?
WE'RE SOME THREE-HUNDRED-TWENTY LIGHT YEARS FROM EARTH ON AN UNNAMED PLANET IN ORBIT AROUND A STAR IN THE CONSTELLATION ORION...

THAT COULD BE BELLATRIX UP THERE!
TOO RED FOR BELLA-TRIX!

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO CHECK THE TAPES--SO YOU DON'T REALLY KNOW WHERE WE ARE, DO YOU?
WHAT WENT WRONG?
WE WEREN'T PROGRAMMED TO LAND IN WATER--SO WE'RE NOT WHERE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE.

THE QUESTION, LANDON, IS NOT SO MUCH WHERE WE ARE AS WHEN WE ARE.
NOW WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

IT MEANS WE'VE HAD OUR RIP VAN WINKLE SNOOZE...
...AND NOW IT'S TIME TO START EARNING OUR BACK PAY.
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A TIP FROM DODGE? HE'S ALREADY BUSY TAKING SOIL SAMPLES.


WELL, AS FOR OUR INVENTORY...WE'VE GOT ONE PISTOL, TWENTY-FOUR ROUNDS OF AMMO, TWO MEDICAL KITS, ONE CAMERA, ONE TX9...
...AND ENOUGH FOOD AND WATER FOR THREE DAYS.
YEAH, BUT HOW LONG IS A DAY?

GOOD QUESTION, DODGE.
LANDON-- SNAP OUT OF IT AND CHECK YOUR COMMUNICATIONS KIT.

LANDON! I SAID JOIN THE EXPEDITION!

SORRY...

I WAS THINKING ABOUT... STEWART. WHAT D'YOU SUPPOSE HAPPENED?
AIR LEAK. DIED IN HER SLEEP..
YOU DON'T SEEM VERY CUT UP ABOUT IT!

IT'S A LITTLE LATE FOR MOURNING -- SHE'S BEEN DEAD NEARLY A YEAR.
THEN... WE'VE BEEN AWAY FROM EARTH FOR EIGHTEEN MONTHS.
BY OUR TIME.

IN FACT, YOUR HAIR'S GONE GRAY, LANDON...
...BUT APART FROM THAT, YOU LOOK PRETTY CHIPPER FOR A MAN WHO'S TWO-THOUSAND-THIRTY-ONE YEARS OLD.
TWO-THOUSAND...

THAT'S RIGHT. I READ THE CLOCKS BEFORE WE ABANDONED SHIP--THEY BEAR OUT HASSLEIN'S HYPOTHESIS. WE'VE BEEN AWAY FROM EARTH FOR TWO-THOUSAND YEARS...GIVE OR TAKE A DECADE.
AND YOU STILL CAN'T ACCEPT IT, CAN YOU, LANDON?

YOU CAN'T ACCEPT THAT TIME HAS WIPED OUT EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING YOU EVER CARED FOR--TURNED THEM INTO DUST.
YOU CAN'T PROVE IT--IF WE CAN'T GET BACK, IT'S STILL JUST A THEORY!
IT'S A FACT, LANDON. BUY IT. YOU'LL SLEEP BETTER!

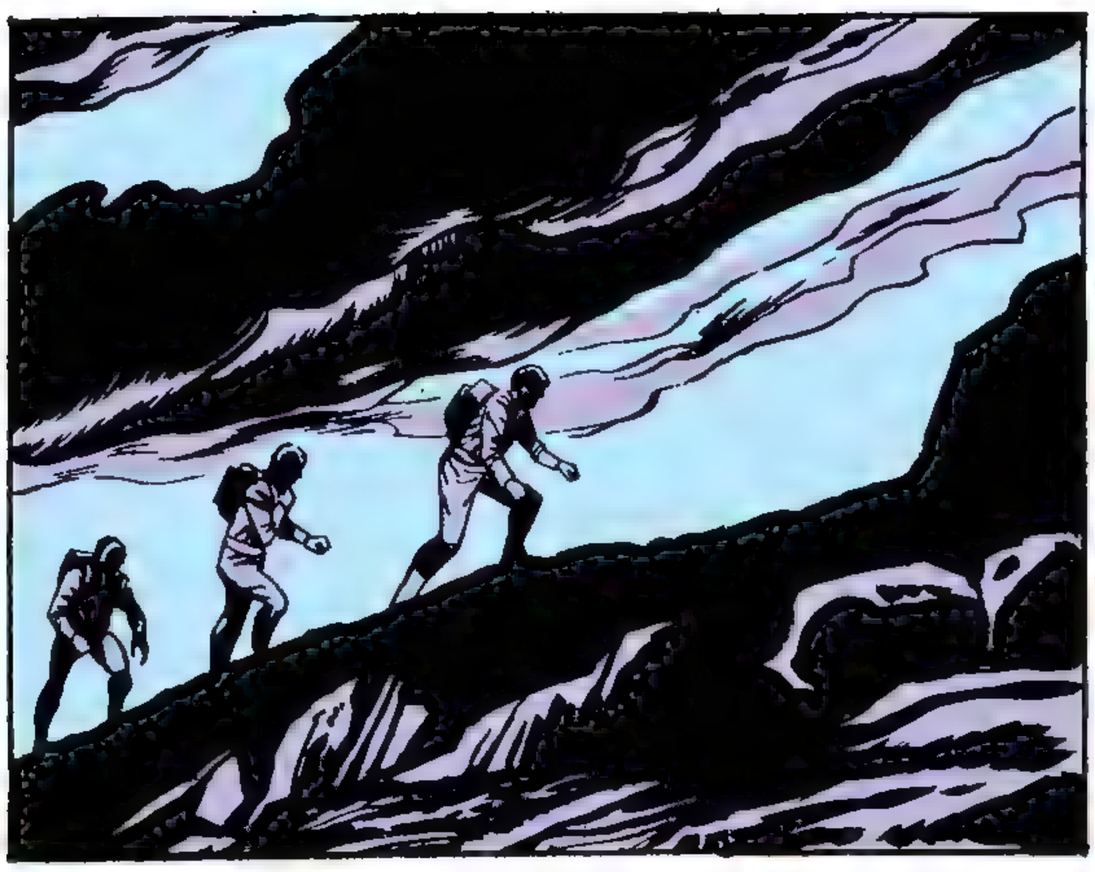
NOTHING'LL GROW HERE! THERE'S ONLY A TRACE OF HYDROCARBONS, AND MOST OF THE NITROGEN IS LOCKED INTO NITRATES.
ANY DETECTION OF DANGEROUS IONIZATION?
NO. WE'RE OKAY ON THAT SCORE!

OKAY. IF THERE'S NO LIFE HERE, WE'VE GOT JUST SEVENTY-TWO HOURS TO FIND SOME ELSEWHERE.
THAT'S WHEN THE GROCERIES RUN OUT.

ANY PARTICULAR REASON FOR HEADING IN THIS DIRECTION?
NONE AT ALL!

WAIT A MINUTE!

AHA...HA HA HA HA

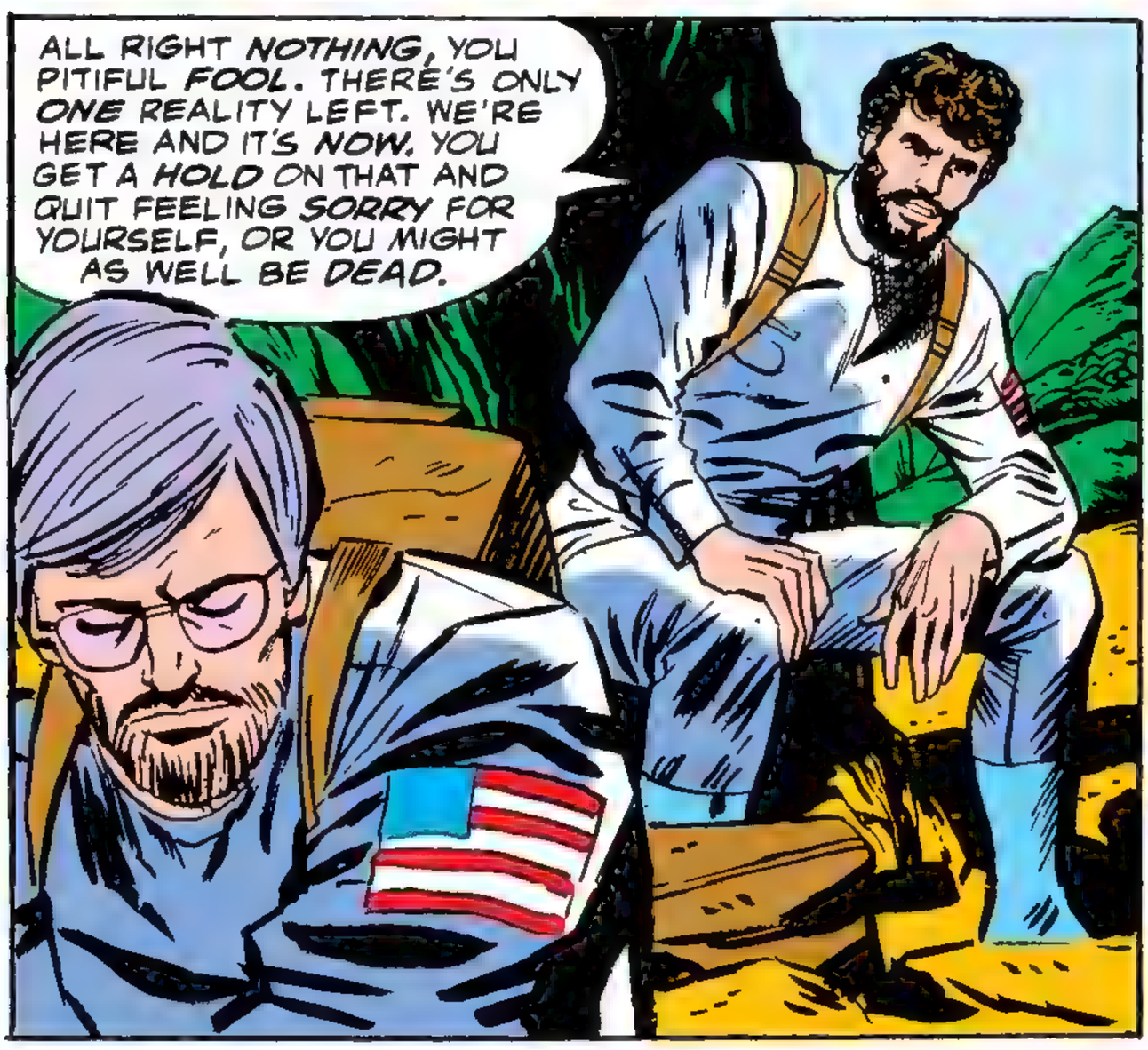


WELL, LOOKS LIKE EVERYBODY'S IN REASONABLY GOOD SHAPE!
WATER CHECK, DODGE?

EIGHT OUNCES LEFT, TAYLOR. EIGHT OUNCES TO GET US THROUGH THIS CRAZY HELL MASQUERADING AS A PLANET!
IT JUST DOESN'T ADD UP--THERE'S A MANTLE OF DUST AROUND THIS PLANET AND YET IT'S AS HUMID AS A JUNGLE. THUNDER AND LIGHTNING, AND YET NO RAIN. CLOUD COVER EVERY NIGHT AND THAT WEIRD LUMINOSITY... AND YET NO MOON!

IF ONLY WE COULD GET A FIX ON THE STARS...
WHAT WOULD YOU LEARN? I'VE TOLD YOU WHERE YOU ARE AND WHEN YOU ARE.
TAYLOR... QUIT RIDING HIM.

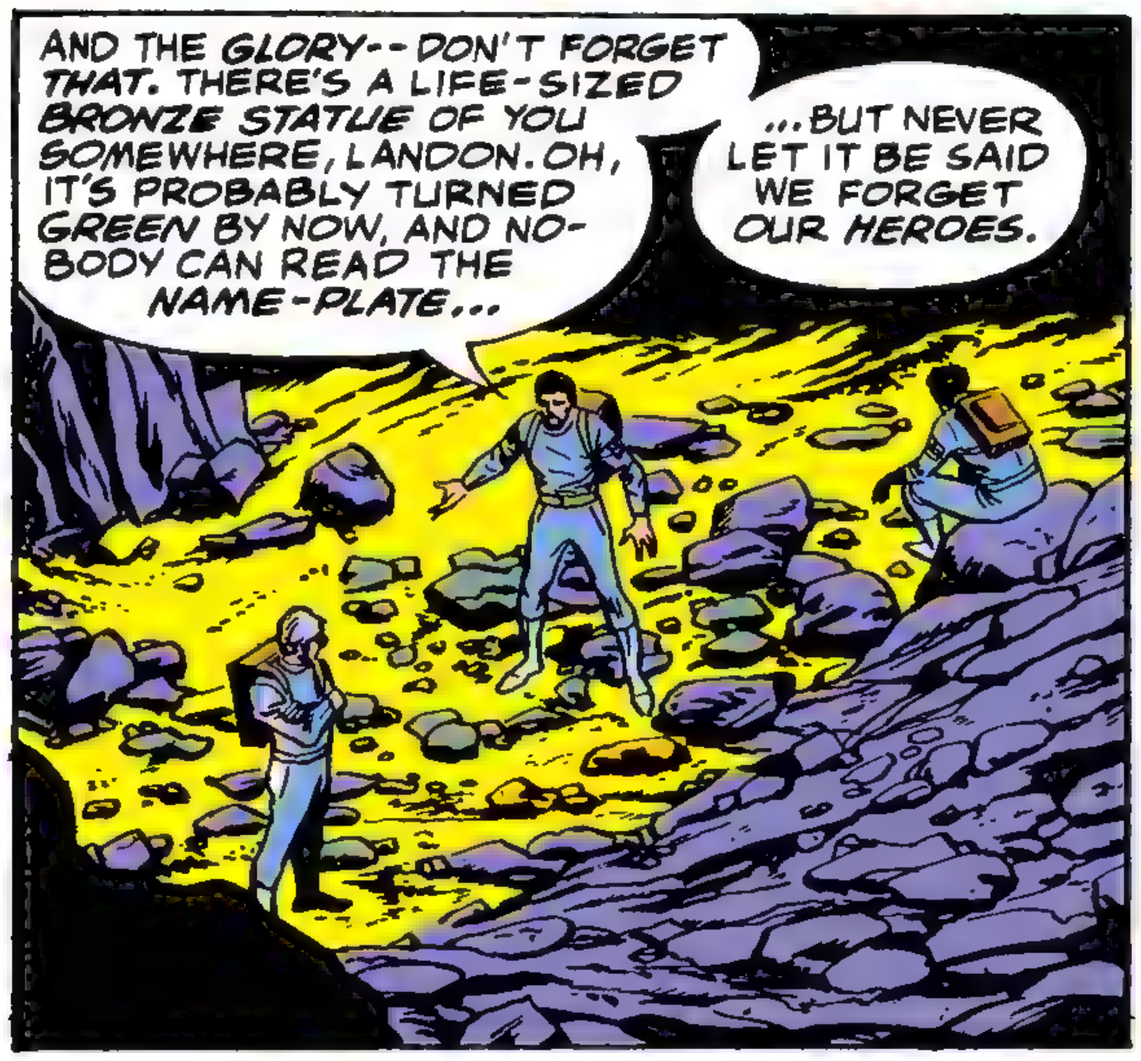
WHY? BECAUSE HE'S MORE THAN THREE-HUNDRED LIGHT YEARS FROM HIS PRECIOUS LITTLE HOME-PLANET? BECAUSE HIS LOVED ONES HAVE BEEN DEAD AND FORGOTTEN FOR TWENTY CENTURIES?
ALL RIGHT ALREADY, TAYLOR--


ALL RIGHT NOTHING, YOU PITIFUL FOOL. THERE'S ONLY ONE REALITY LEFT. WE'RE HERE AND IT'S NOW. YOU GET A HOLD ON THAT AND QUIT FEELING SORRY FOR YOURSELF, OR YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE DEAD.

I'M PREPARED TO DIE!

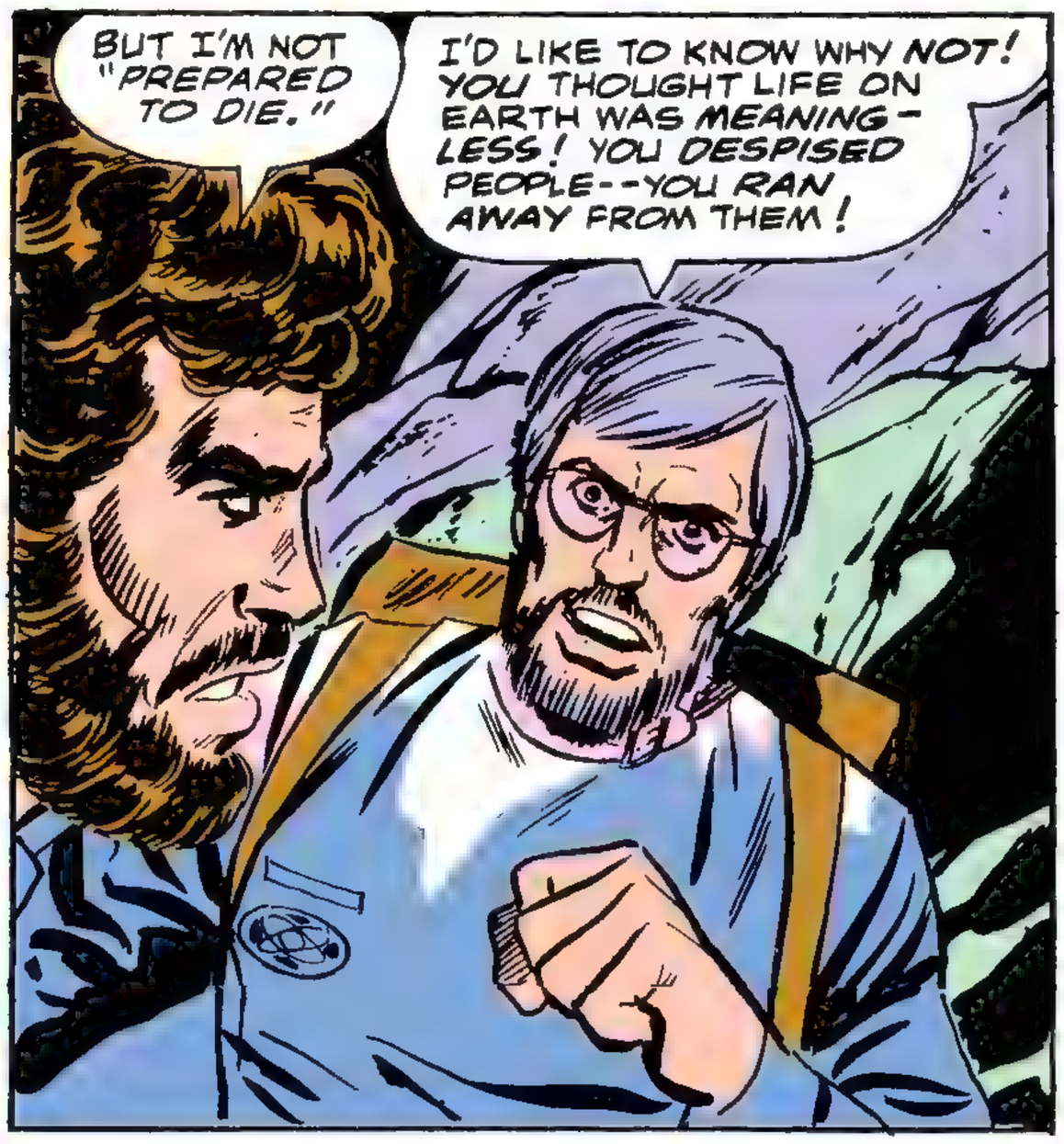
OH, HE'S PREPARED TO DIE. ISN'T THAT NOBLE AND COURAGEOUS?! CHALK UP ANOTHER VICTORY FOR THE HUMAN SPIRIT!
GET OFF MY BACK, TAYLOR.

SURE, BUT BEFORE I GET OFF FOR GOOD, JUST CLEAR UP ONE QUESTION-- WHY DID YOU COME ALONG AT ALL? YOU VOLUNTEERED. WHY?
I'LL TELL YOU--THEY NOMINATED YOU FOR THE BIG ONE AND YOU COULDN'T TURN IT DOWN WITHOUT LOSING YOUR ALL-AMERICAN STANDING.


AND THE GLORY--DON'T FORGET THAT. THERE'S A LIFE-SIZED BRONZE STATUE OF YOU SOMEWHERE, LANDON. OH, IT'S PROBABLY TURNED GREEN BY NOW, AND NOBODY CAN READ THE NAME-PLATE...
...BUT NEVER LET IT BE SAID WE FORGET OUR HEROES.

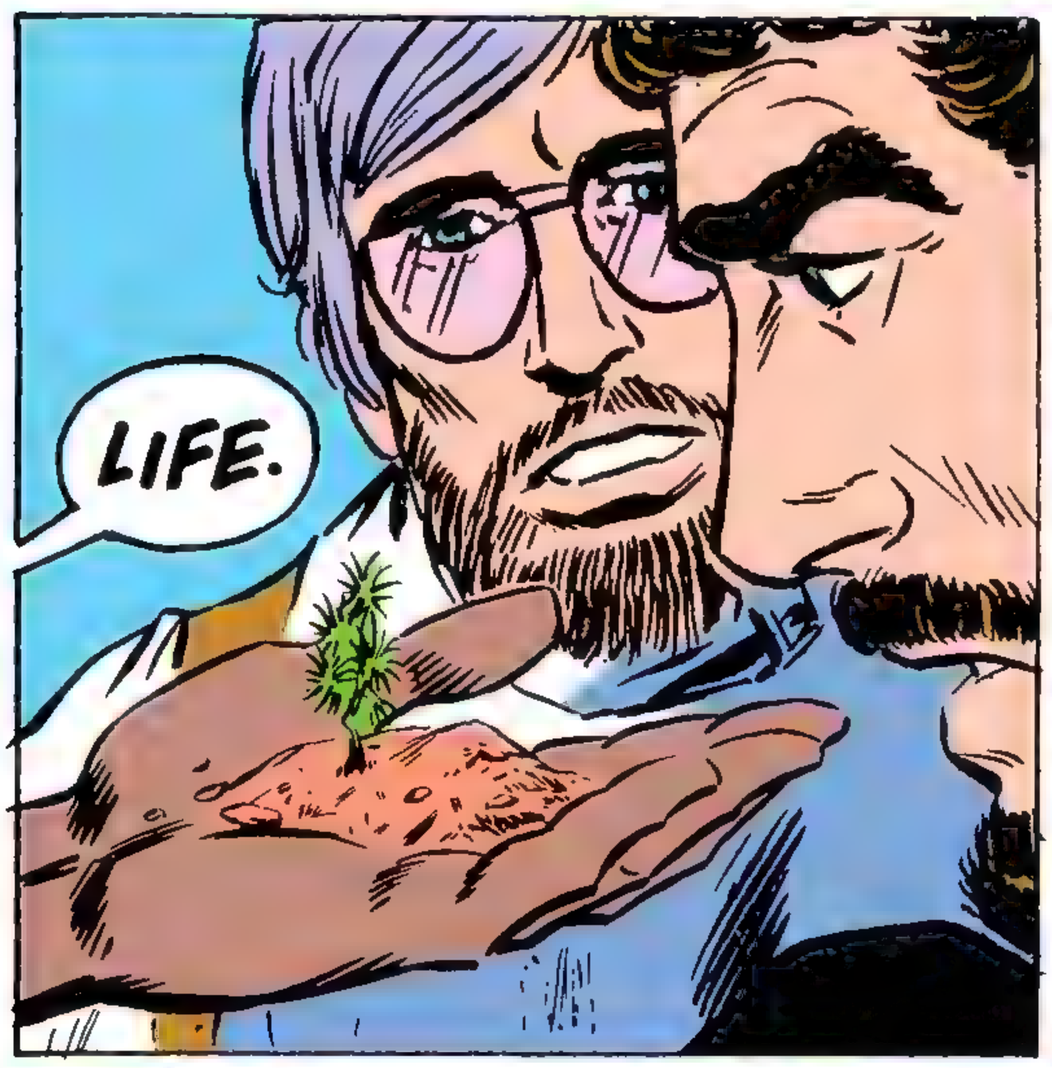
ARE YOU FINISHED, TAYLOR?
ONE LAST ITEM--IMMORTALITY. YOU WANTED TO GO ON FOREVER. AND YOU'VE DAMN NEAR MADE IT. EXCEPT FOR DODGE AND ME, YOU'VE LIVED LONGER THAN ANYBODY!
YOU'VE GOT WHAT YOU WANTED, KID. HOW DOES IT TASTE?

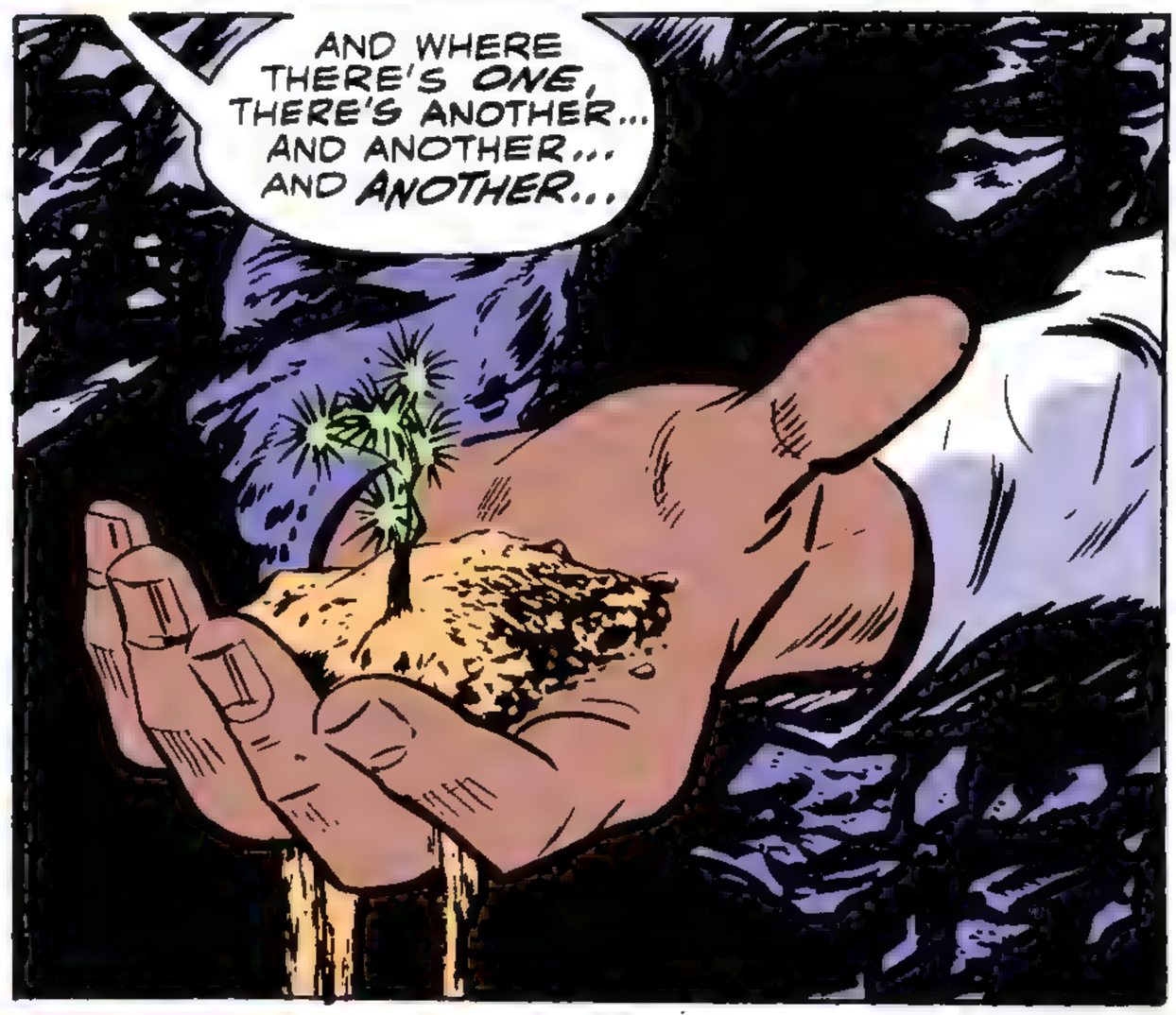
OKAY. YOU READ ME WELL ENOUGH. WHY CAN'T I READ YOU?
I MEAN, DODGE I CAN UNDERSTAND. HE MAKES SENSE. HE'D WALK THROUGH A VOLCANO NAKED IF HE THOUGHT HE COULD LEARN SOMETHING NO OTHER MAN KNEW. BUT YOU, TAYLOR--YOU'RE NO SEEKER. YOU'RE NEGATIVE.


BUT I'M NOT "PREPARED TO DIE."
I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHY NOT! YOU THOUGHT LIFE ON EARTH WAS MEANINGLESS! YOU DESPISED PEOPLE--YOU RAN AWAY FROM THEM!

NOT QUITE, LANDON. I'M A BIT OF A SEEKER MYSELF. BUT MY DREAMS ARE A LOT EMPTIER THAN YOURS...
...'CAUSE, Y'SEE, I CAN'T GET RID OF THE IDEA THAT SOMEWHERE IN THIS UNIVERSE...THERE MUST BE A CREATURE SUPERIOR TO MAN.
HEY! TAYLOR-- LANDON--! COME HERE!

OVER HERE--!


LIFE.


AND WHERE THERE'S ONE, THERE'S ANOTHER... AND ANOTHER... AND ANOTHER...

WELL, COME ON THEN-- LET'S FIND 'EM ALL!

WE'RE DOWN TO TWO OUNCES OF WATER...

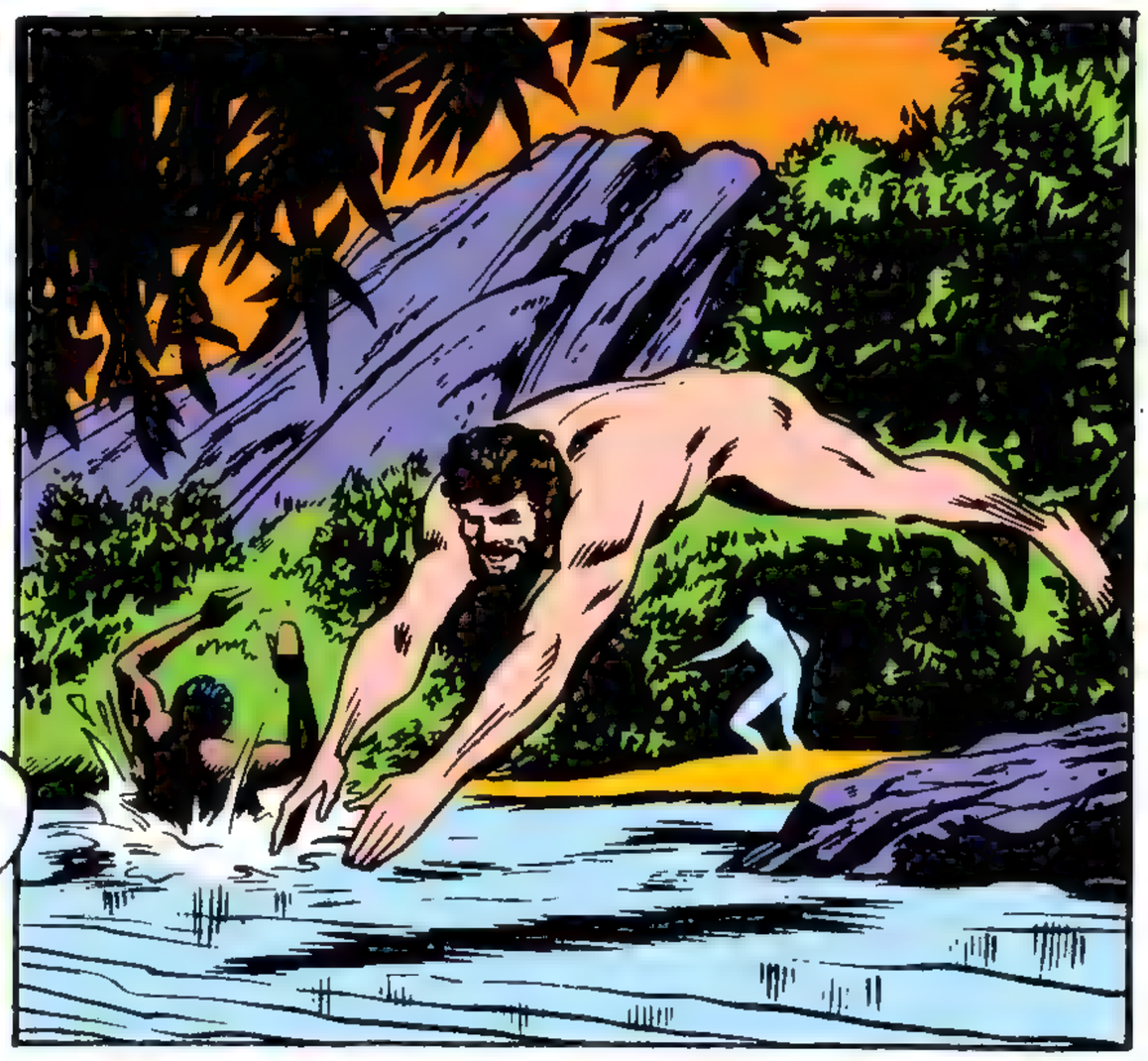
WATER'S GONE, TAYLOR.
WE'LL FIND SOME SOON... I FEEL IT IN MY BONES, DODGE.

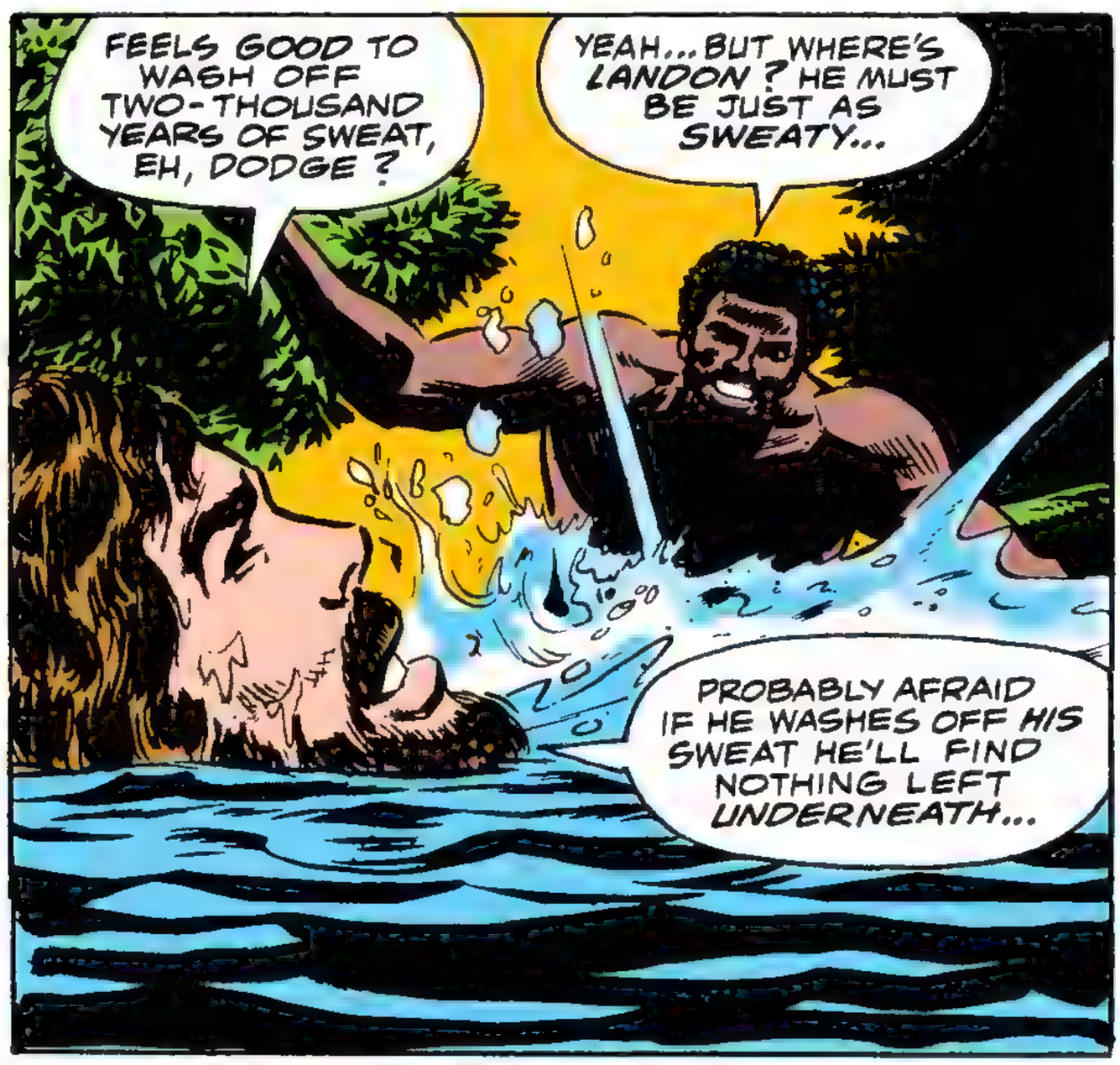
WATER!
OH MY GOD-- WATER!!

HURRY, DODGE, HURRY-- FOR GOD'S SAKE!

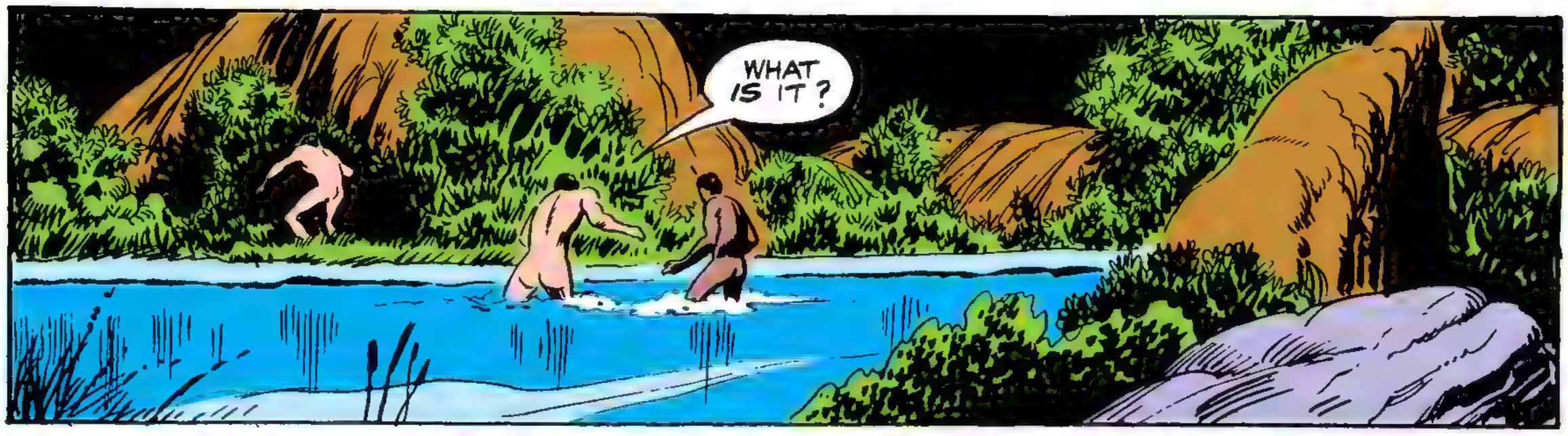
IT'S LOADED WITH MINERALS...
...BUT SAFE!

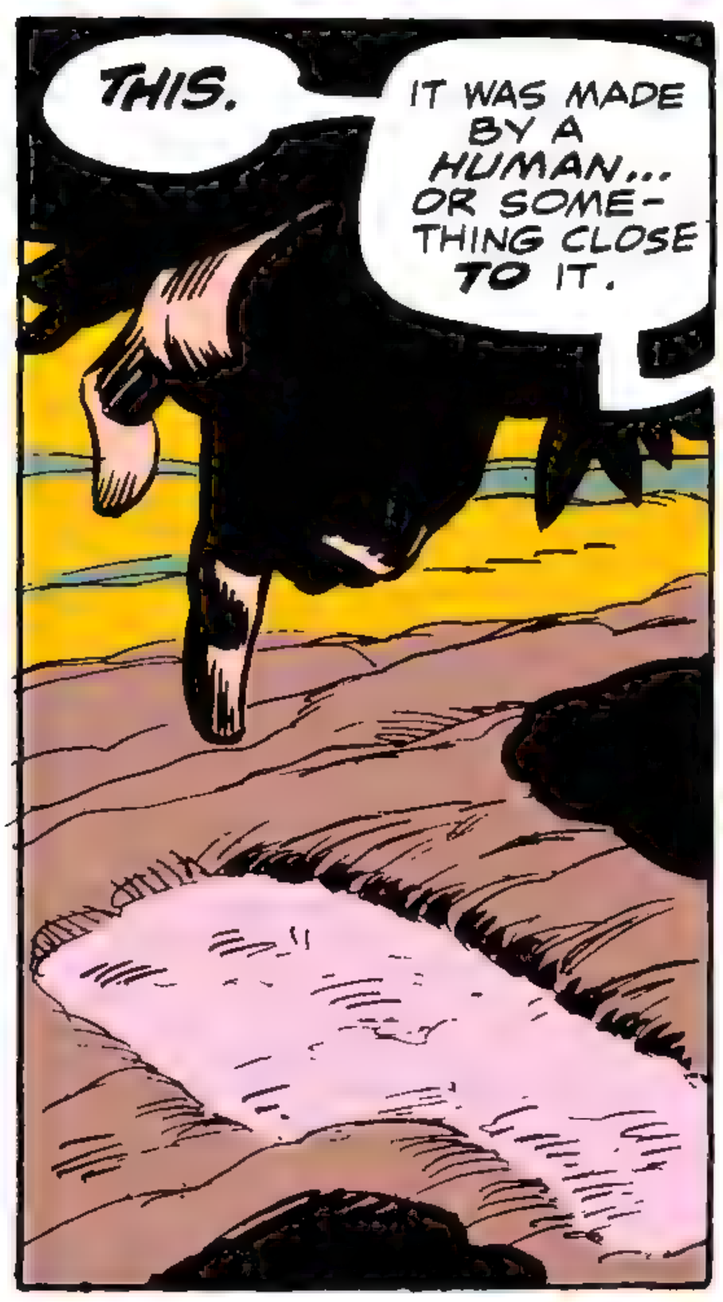
THEN WHAT ON EARTH--OR WHEREVER WE ARE--
--ARE WE WAITING FOR ?!

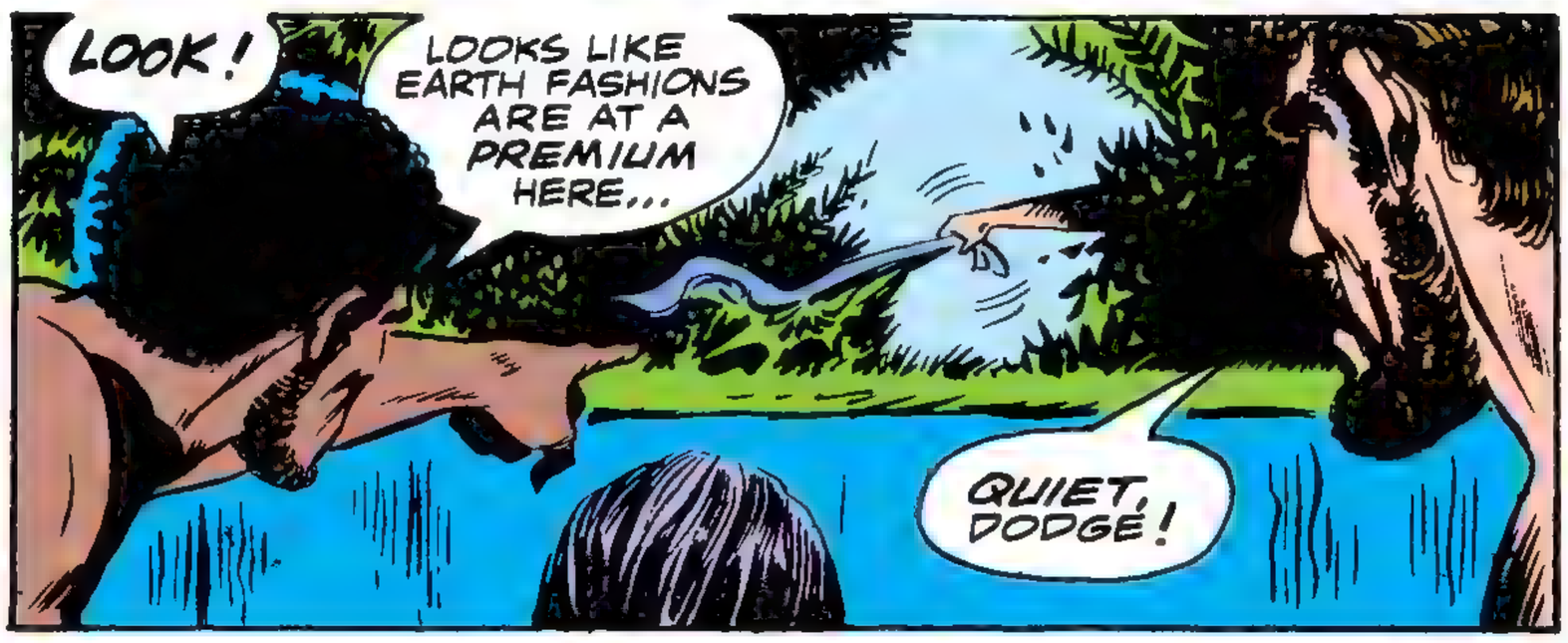



FEELS GOOD TO WASH OFF TWO-THOUSAND YEARS OF SWEAT, EH, DODGE ?
YEAH... BUT WHERE'S LANDON ? HE MUST BE JUST AS SWEATY...
PROBABLY AFRAID IF HE WASHES OFF HIS SWEAT HE'LL FIND NOTHING LEFT UNDERNEATH...

HEY, TAYLOR-- DODGE! YOU'D BETTER COME OVER HERE AND TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT I'VE FOUND!


WHAT IS IT?

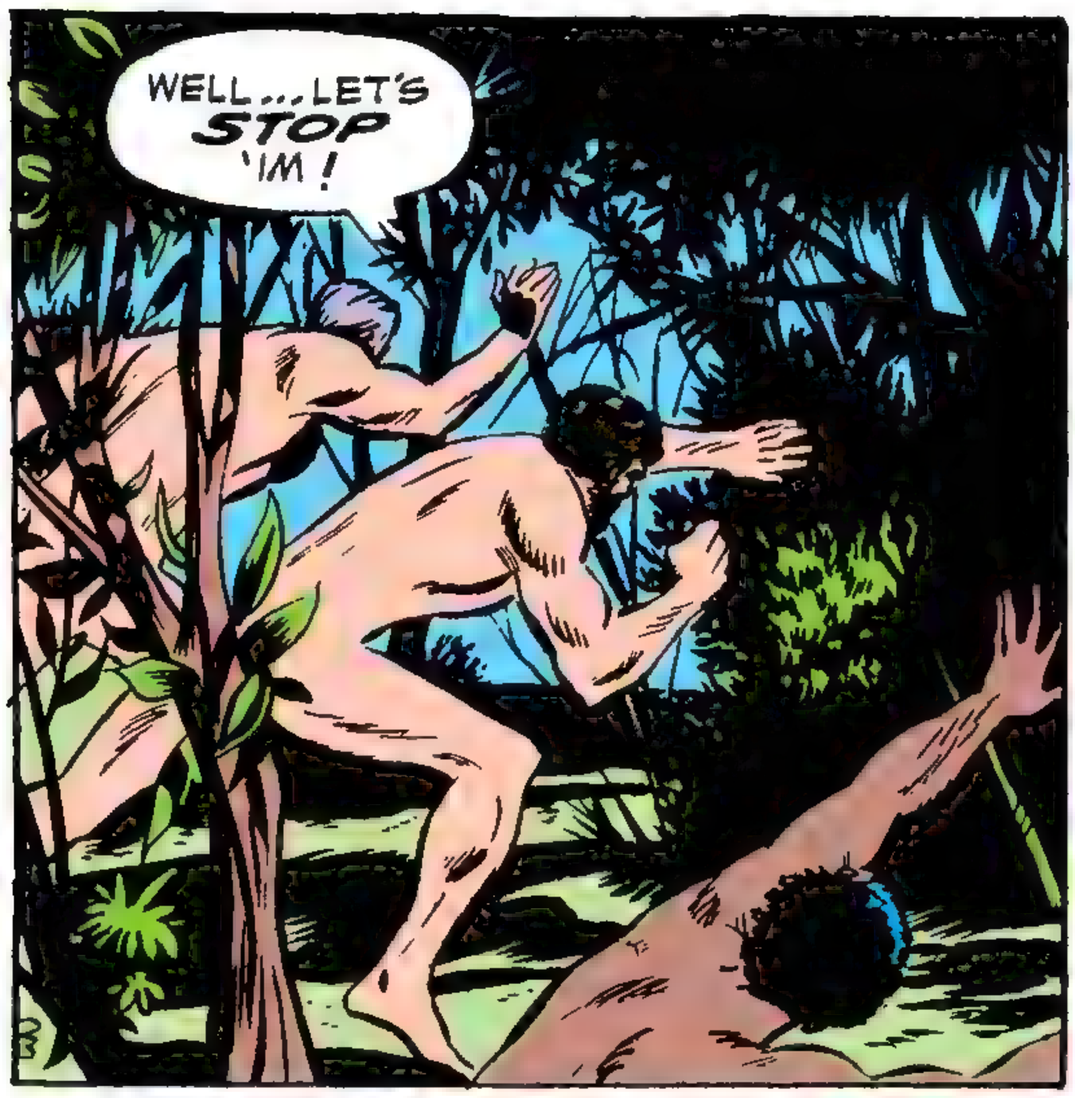

THIS.
IT WAS MADE BY A HUMAN... OR SOMETHING CLOSE TO IT.


LOOK!
LOOKS LIKE EARTH FASHIONS ARE AT A PREMIUM HERE...
QUIET, DODGE!

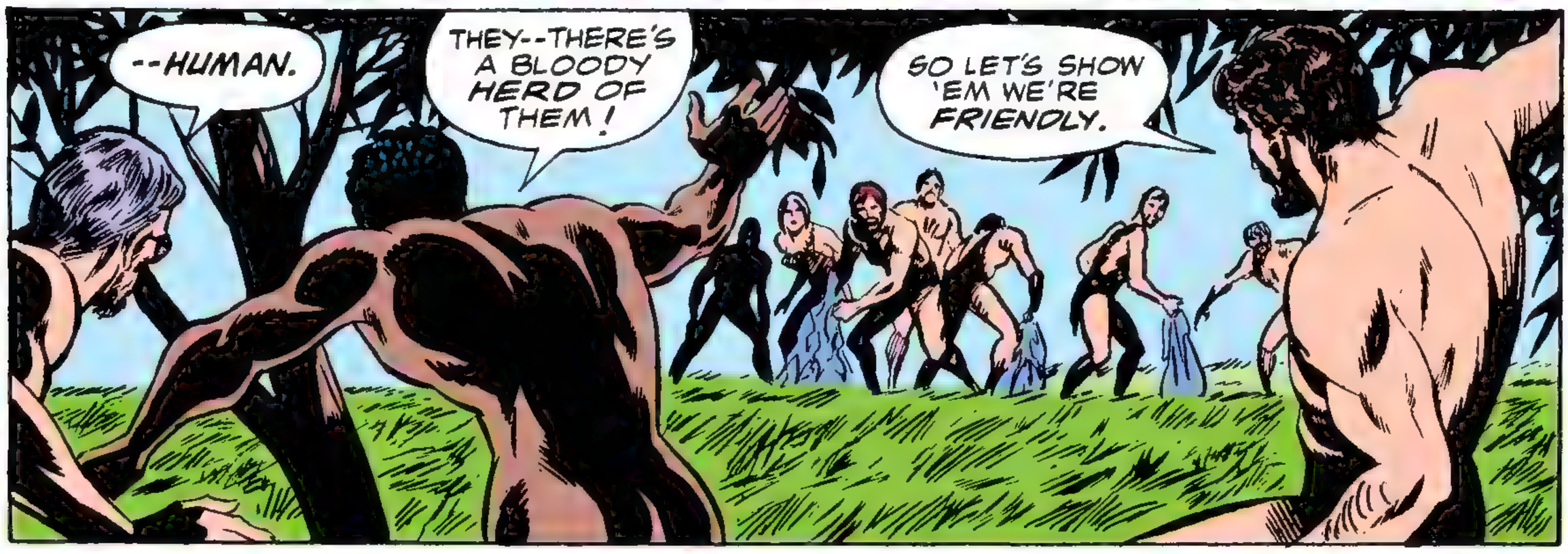
WE DON'T KNOW WHO--OR WHAT--THEY ARE YET...

...BUT WHOEVER THEY ARE, THEY DIDN'T LEAVE MUCH OF OUR UNIFORMS.
TAYLOR--LOOK... OVER THERE...

ONE OF OUR THIEVES... MAKING A GETAWAY.


WELL... LET'S STOP 'IM!

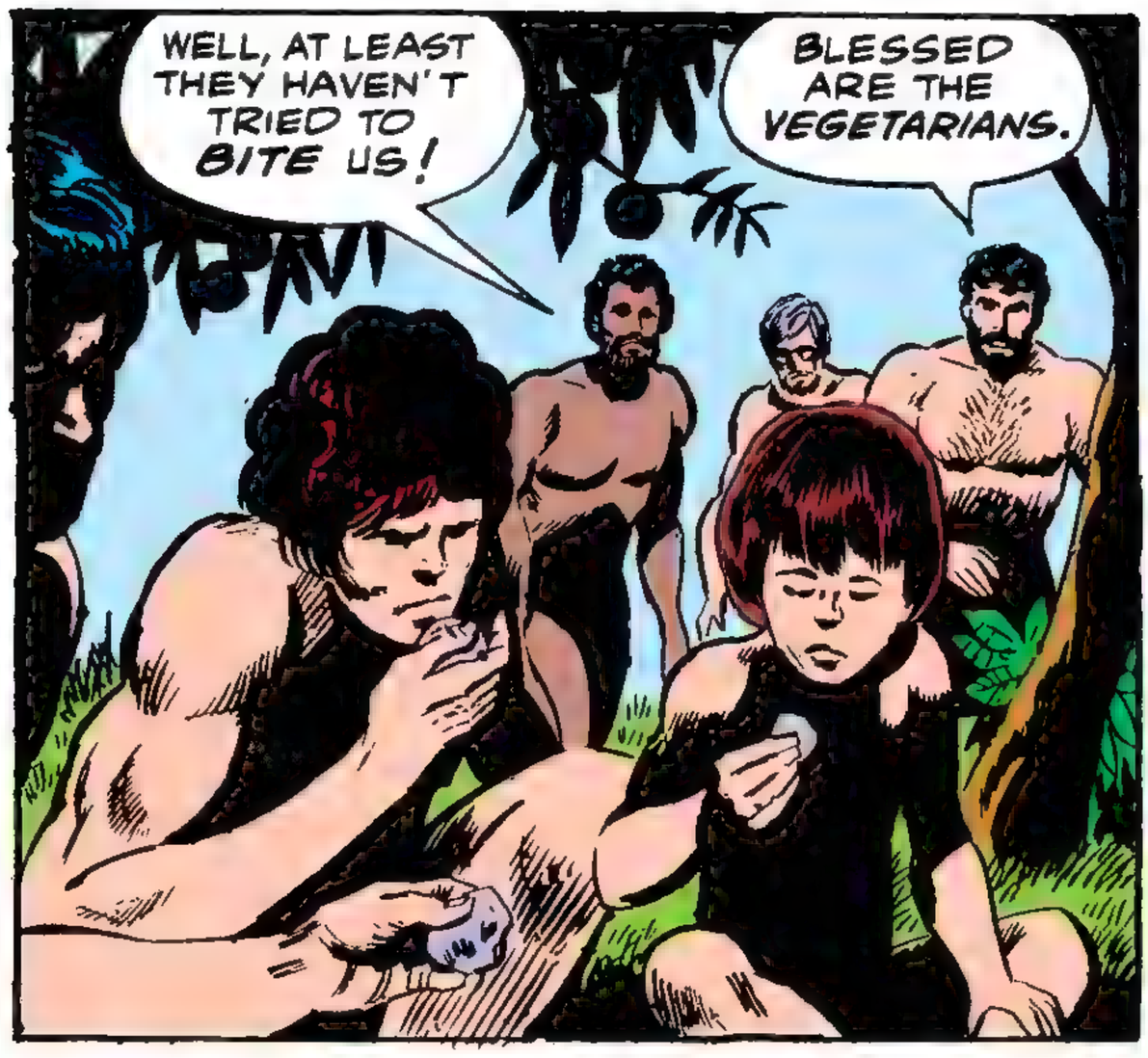
WELL, I'LL BE--
MY GOD. THEY... THEY LOOK ALMOST--

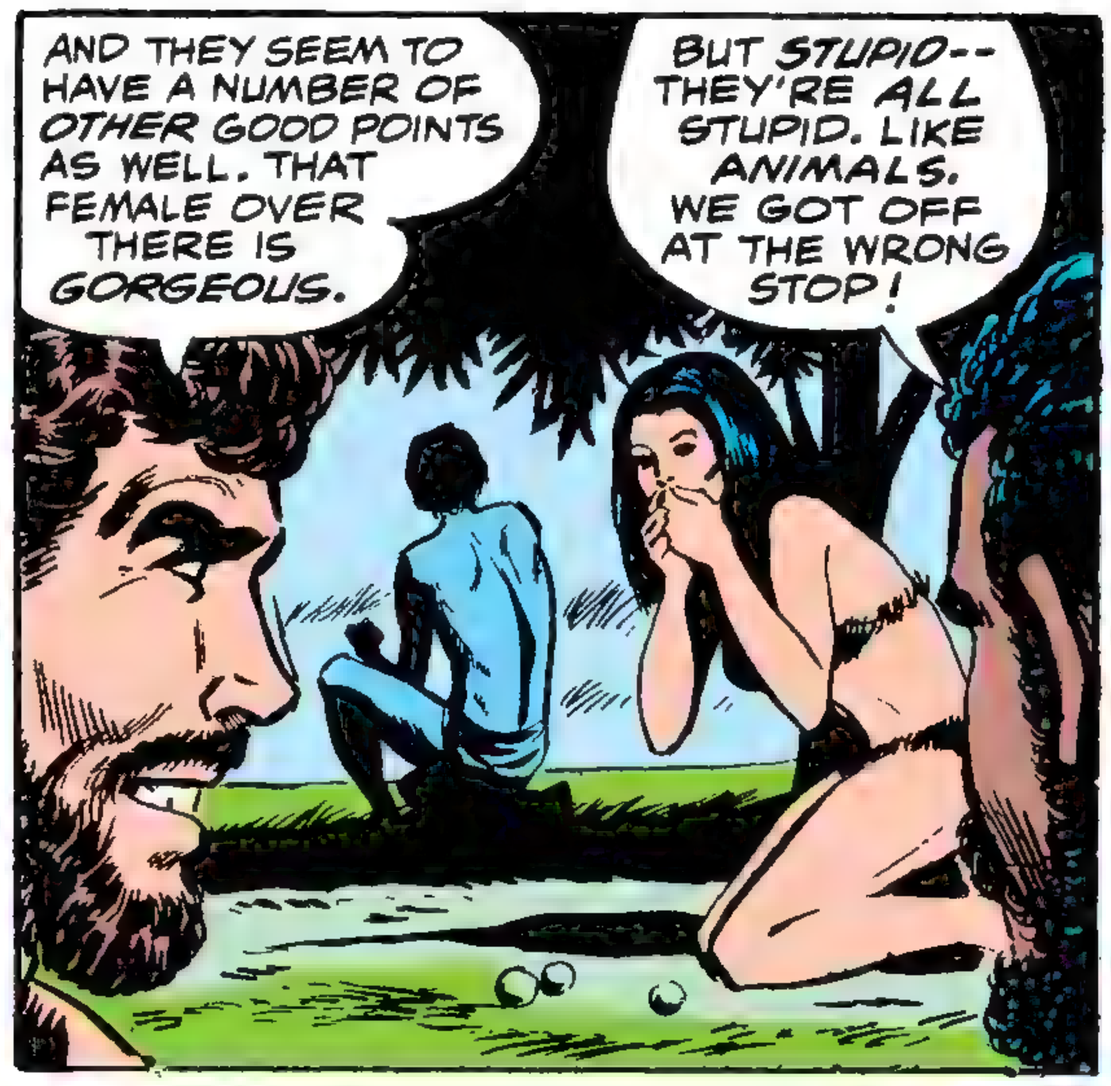

--HUMAN.
THEY--THERE'S A BLOODY HERD OF THEM!
SO LET'S SHOW 'EM WE'RE FRIENDLY.

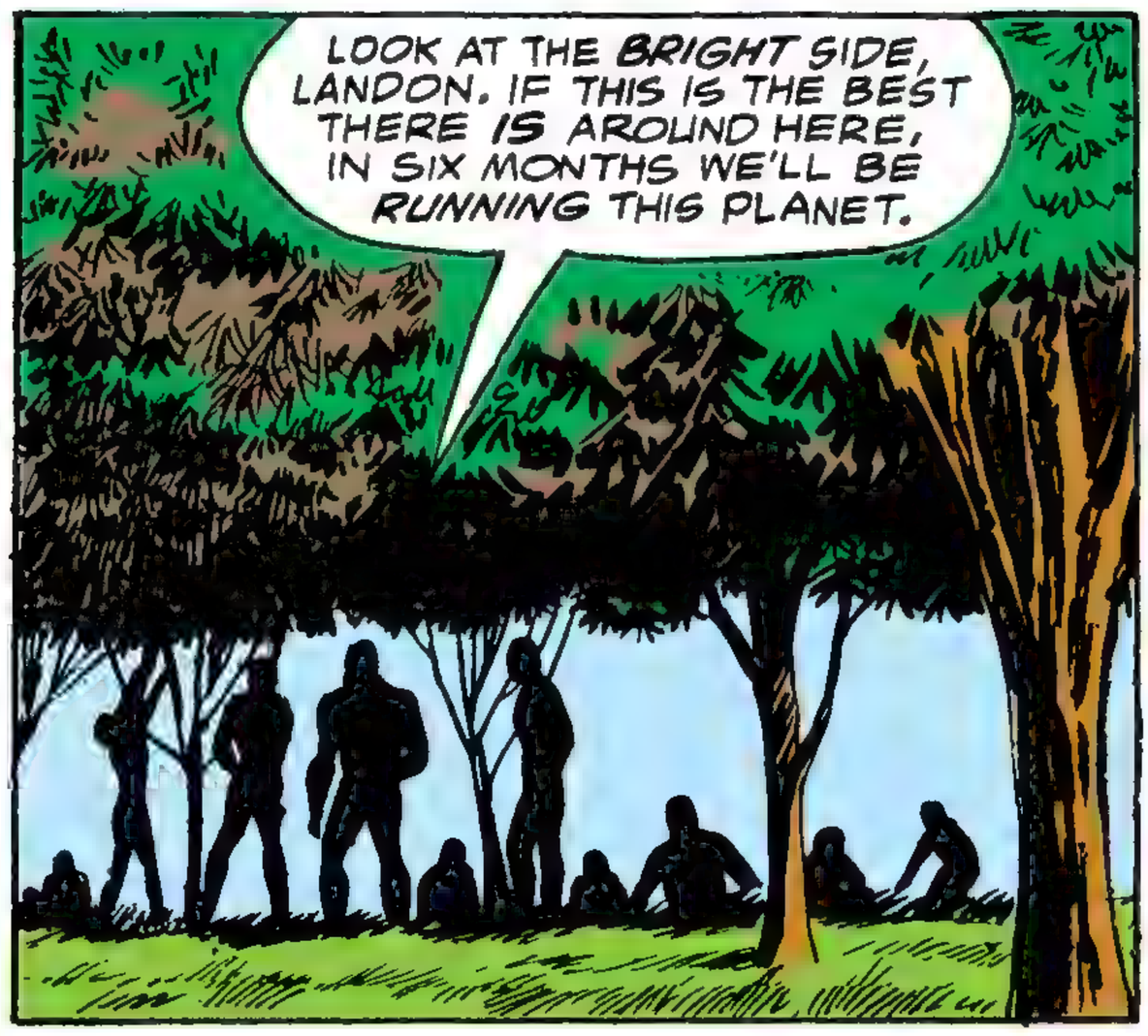
GREETINGS!
WE COME TO YOU IN PEACE!

NO CIGAR WITH THAT TACTIC.
TRY TELLING THEM OUR NAMES.
LANDON, KINDLY KEEP YOUR BRIGHT IDEAS TO YOURSELF, HUH?

LOOKS LIKE WE'VE SCARED THEM OFF!
SHALL WE FOLLOW THEM?
HAVEN'T MUCH CHOICE, NOW DO WE?


WELL, AT LEAST THEY HAVEN'T TRIED TO BITE US!
BLESSED ARE THE VEGETARIANS.


AND THEY SEEM TO HAVE A NUMBER OF OTHER GOOD POINTS AS WELL. THAT FEMALE OVER THERE IS GORGEOUS.
BUT STUPID-- THEY'RE ALL STUPID. LIKE ANIMALS. WE GOT OFF AT THE WRONG STOP!

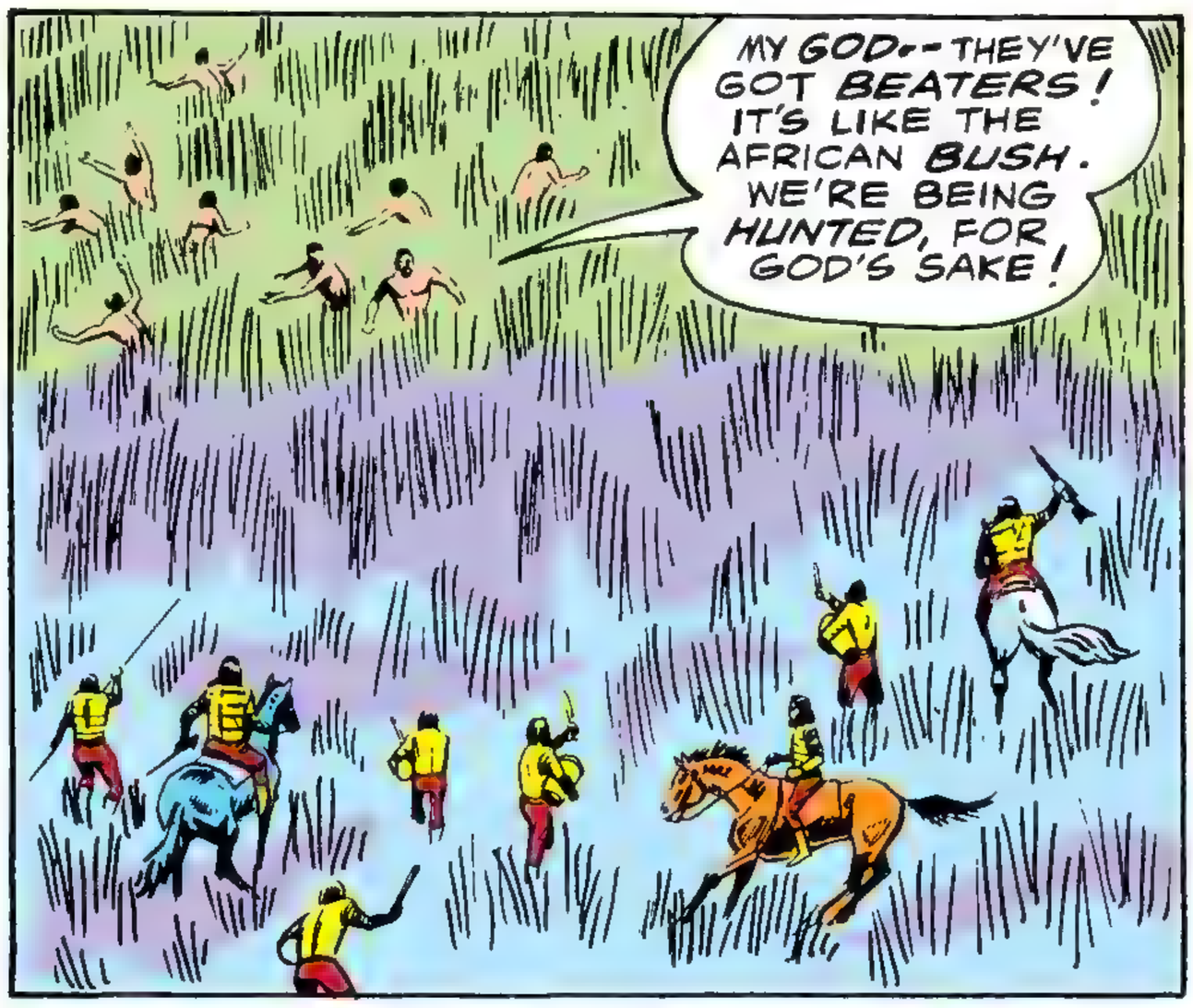

LOOK AT THE BRIGHT SIDE, LANDON. IF THIS IS THE BEST THERE IS AROUND HERE, IN SIX MONTHS WE'LL BE RUNNING THIS PLANET.

TAYLOR, LOOK AT THEM. THEY'RE AGITATED ALL OF A SUDDEN... THERE'S ABSOLUTE TERROR ETCHED ON THEIR FACES...

WHAT THE DEVIL ARE THEY RUNNING FROM--?!
I DON'T KNOW, BUT WHAT-EVER IT IS--
LISTEN--!

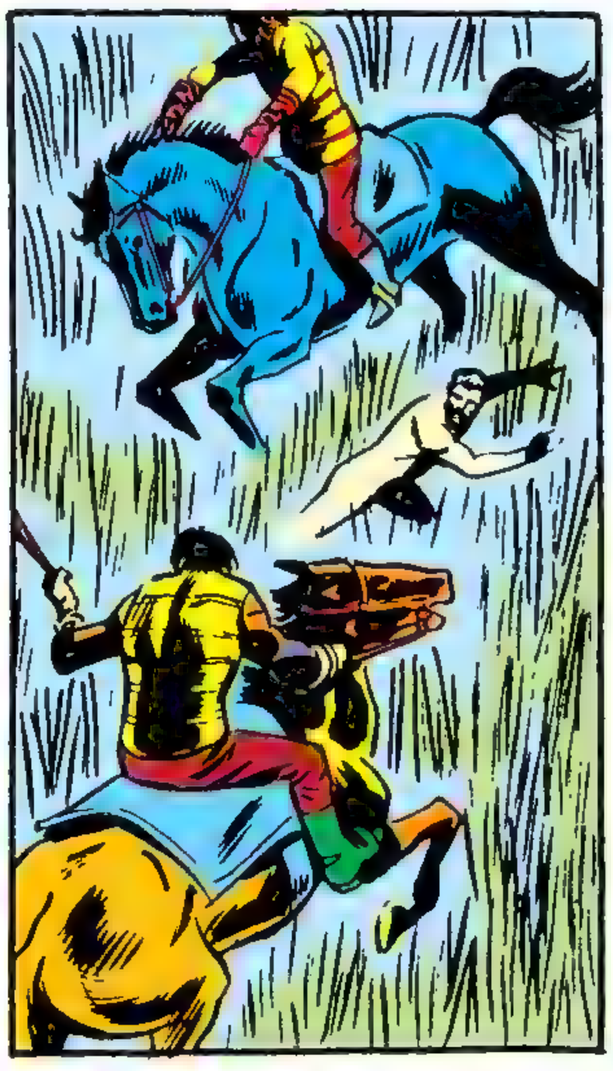
THAT RUMBLE... IT'S LIKE HOOFBEATS... HORSES... GALLOPING...

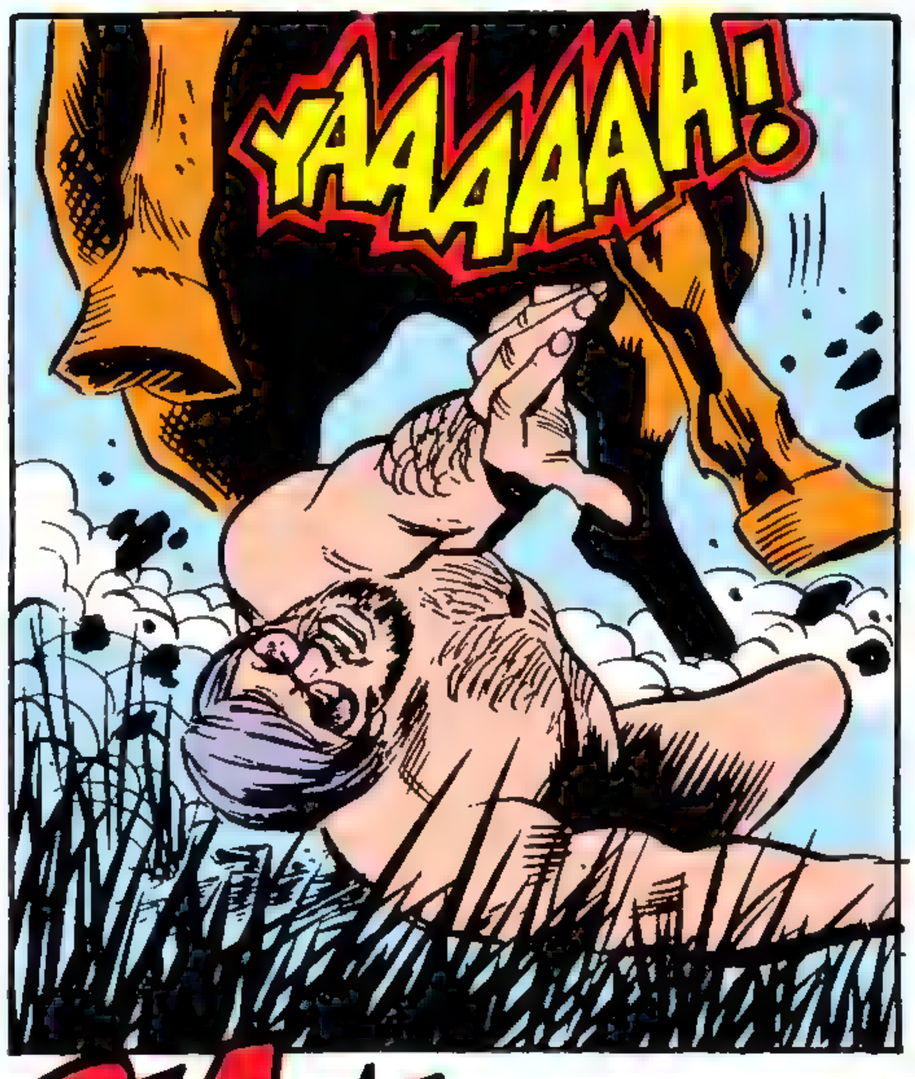
APES! APES ON HORSEBACK!

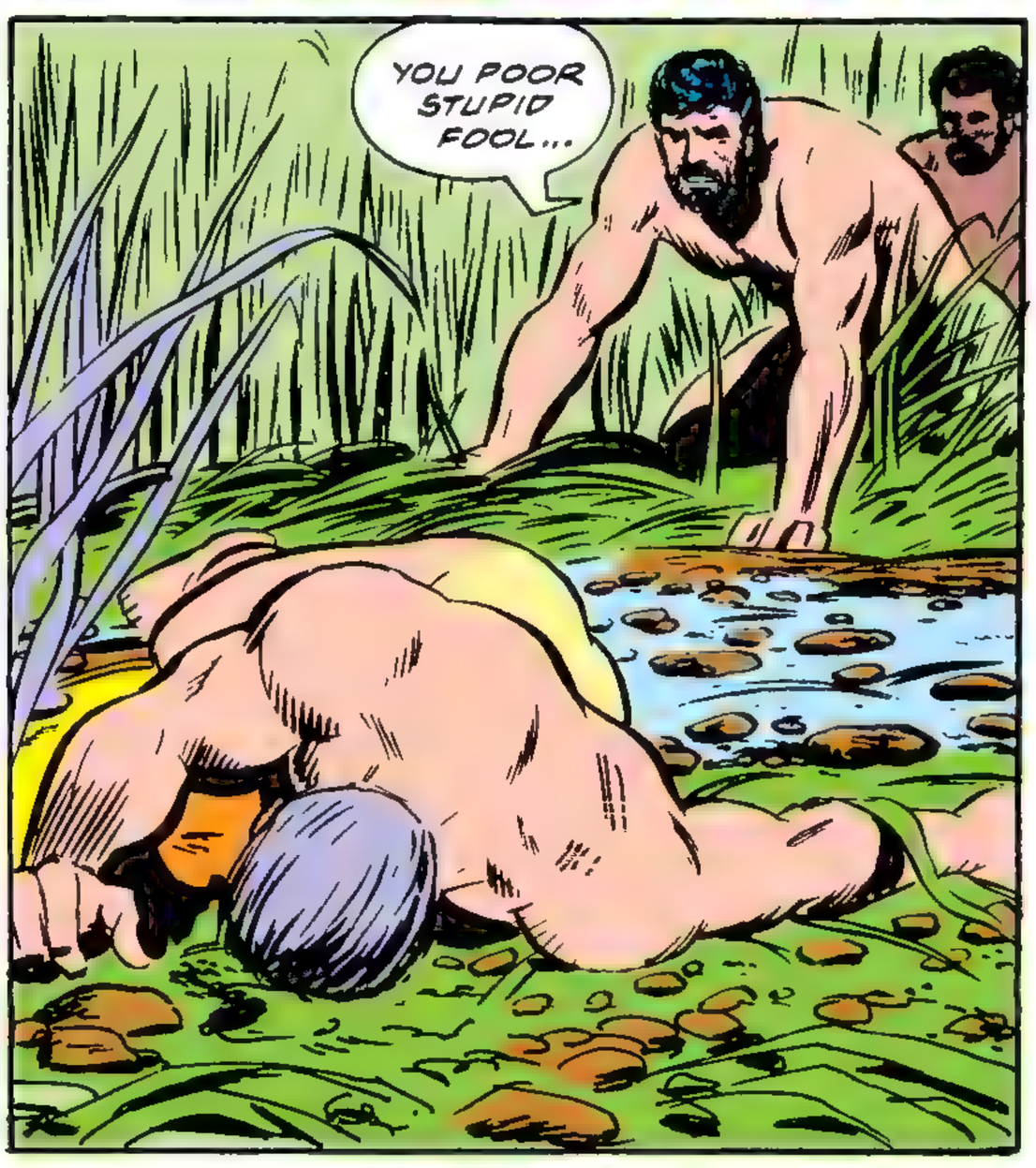

MY GOD-- THEY'VE GOT BEATERS! IT'S LIKE THE AFRICAN BUSH. WE'RE BEING HUNTED, FOR GOD'S SAKE!

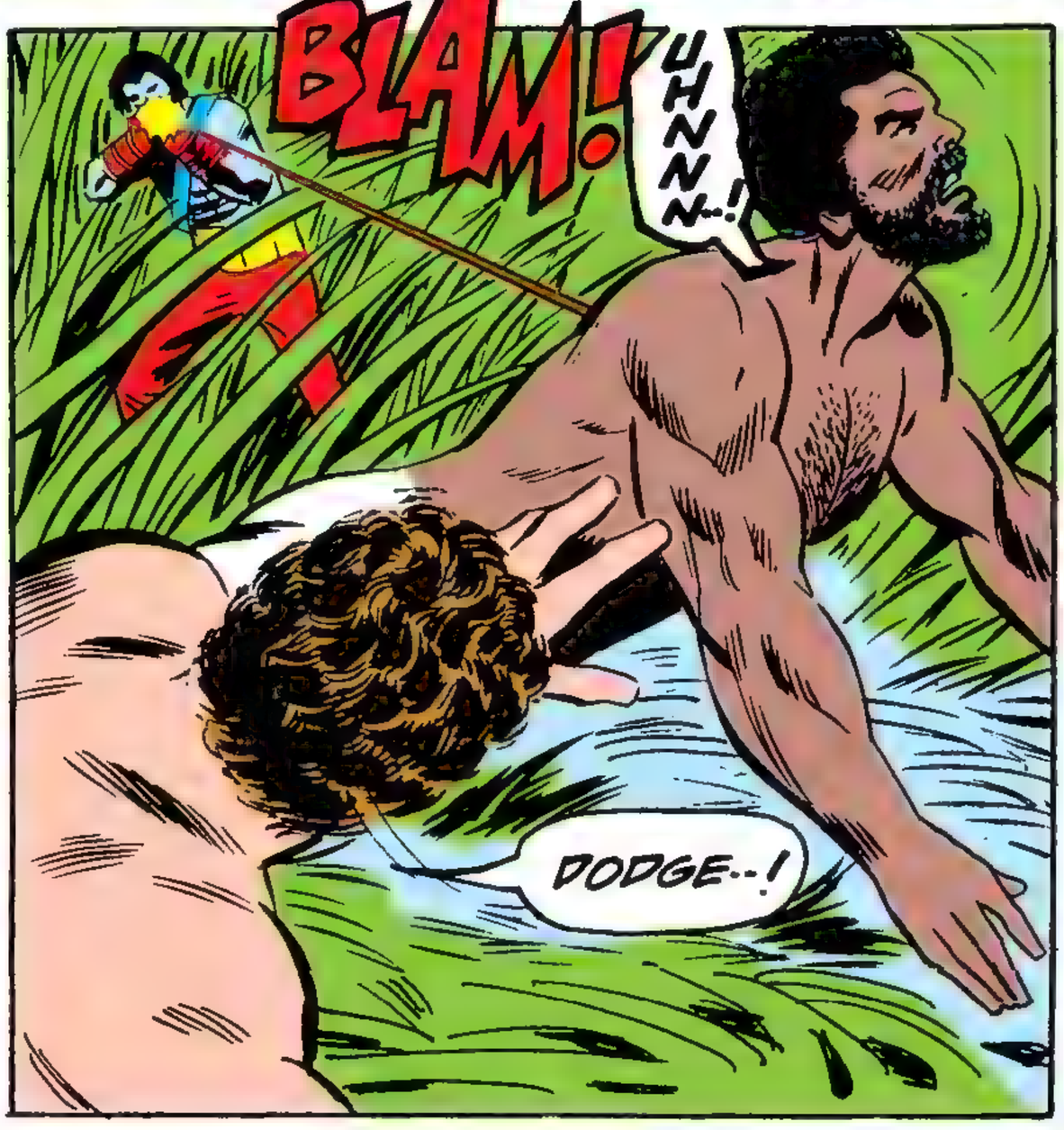
YEAH... AND NOW I KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE...
...TO BE AN ANIMAL.
WE CAN'T JUST STAY HERE--!
KRAK!

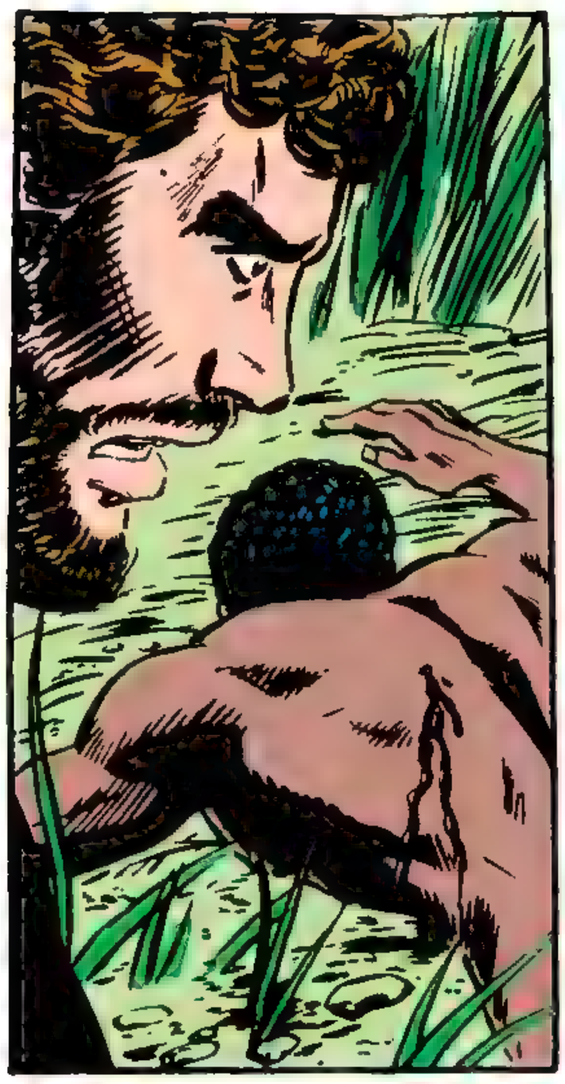
WE'VE GOTTA MAKE A BREAK FOR IT!
LANDON-- STOP, YOU DAMN FOOL!



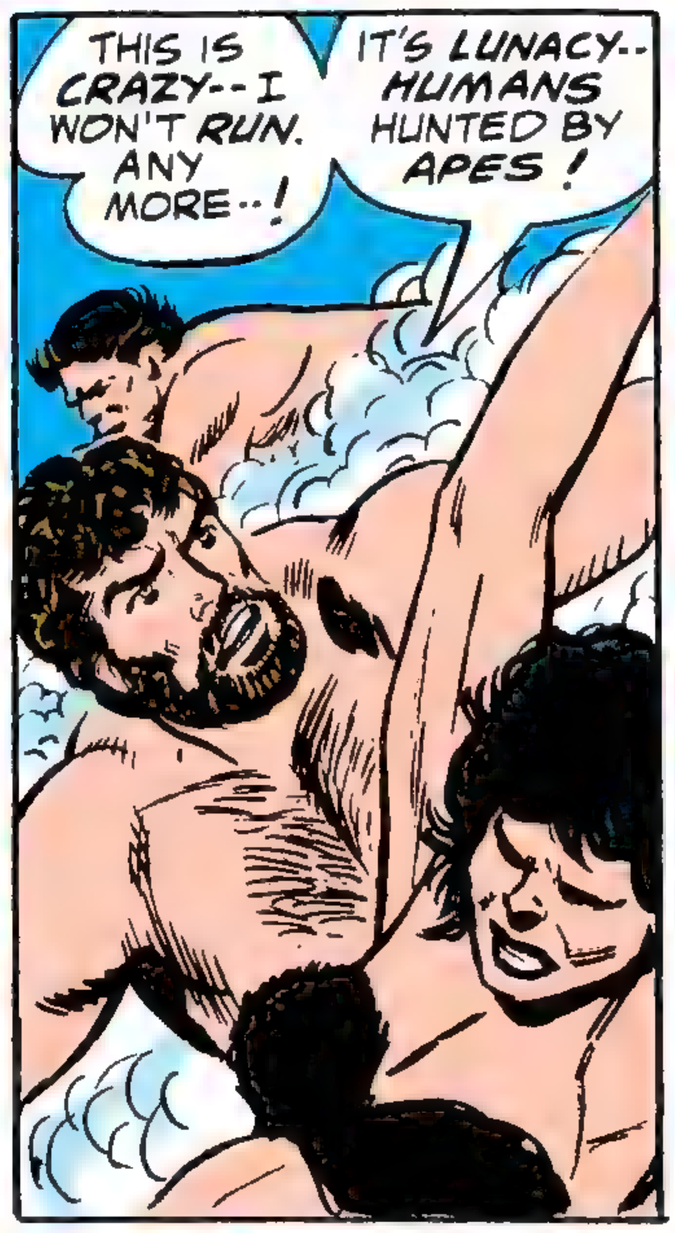

YAAAAAA!


YOU POOR STUPID FOOL...


BLAM!
UHNNN--!
DODGE--!

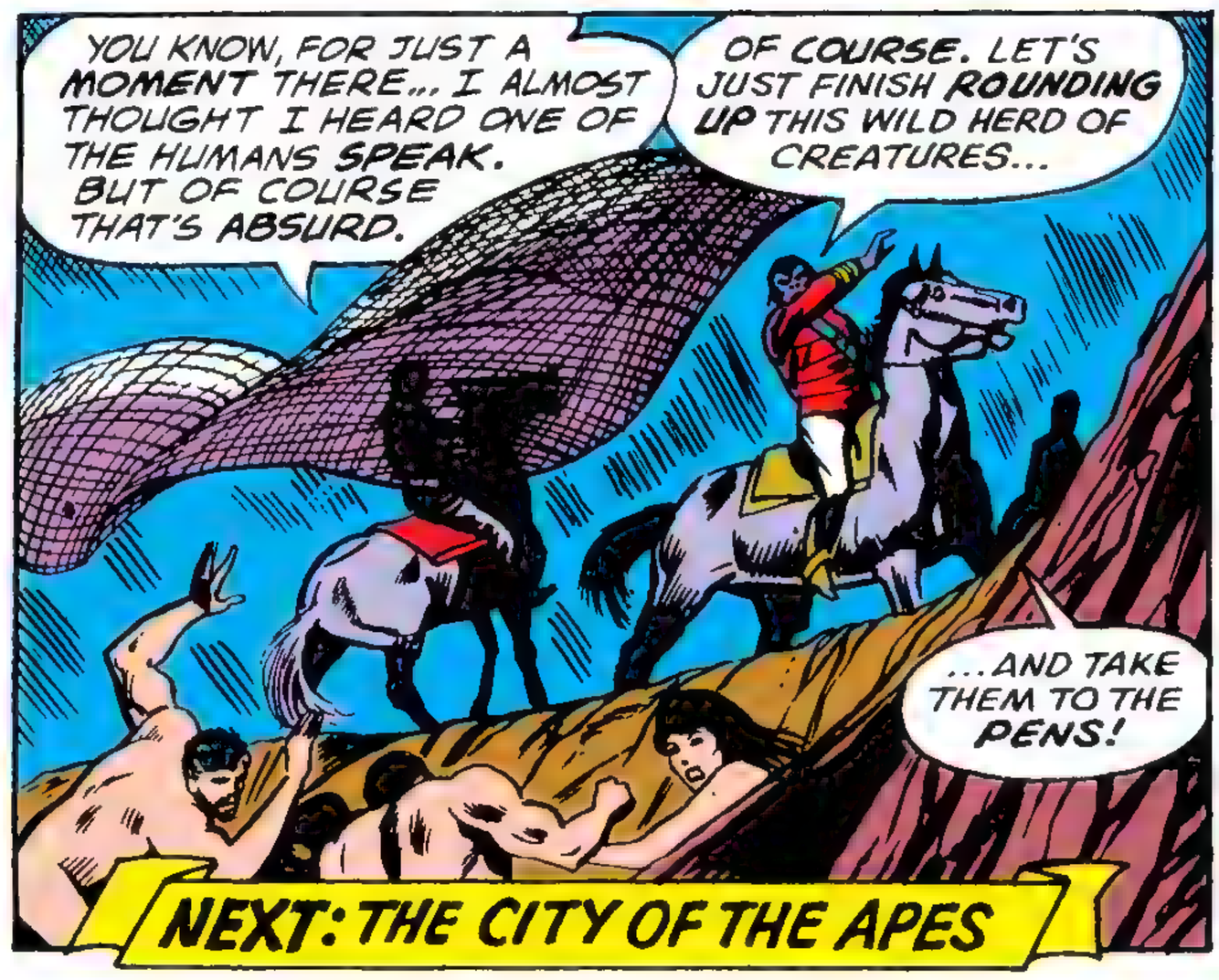


BLAM! BLAM!


THIS IS CRAZY-- I WON'T RUN. ANY MORE--!
IT'S LUNACY-- HUMANS HUNTED BY APES!

DO YOU HEAR ME?! IT'S CRAZY I TELL YOU--!
KRAK
IT'S CRA---

--AGK-K-K!


YOU KNOW, FOR JUST A MOMENT THERE... I ALMOST THOUGHT I HEARD ONE OF THE HUMANS SPEAK. BUT OF COURSE THAT'S ABSURD.
OF COURSE. LET'S JUST FINISH ROUNDING UP THIS WILD HERD OF CREATURES...
...AND TAKE THEM TO THE PENS!
NEXT: THE CITY OF THE APES

ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES

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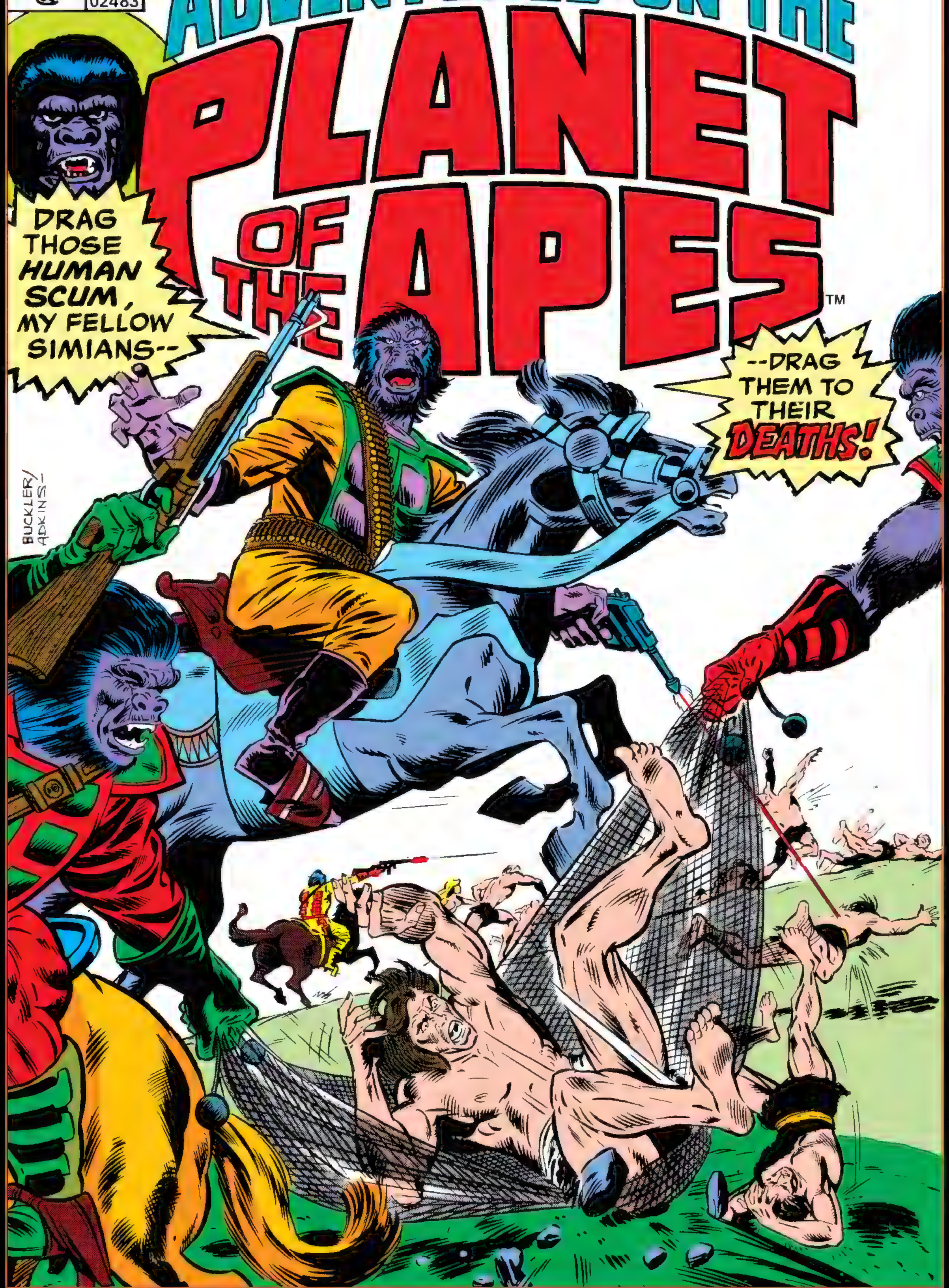
ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES™



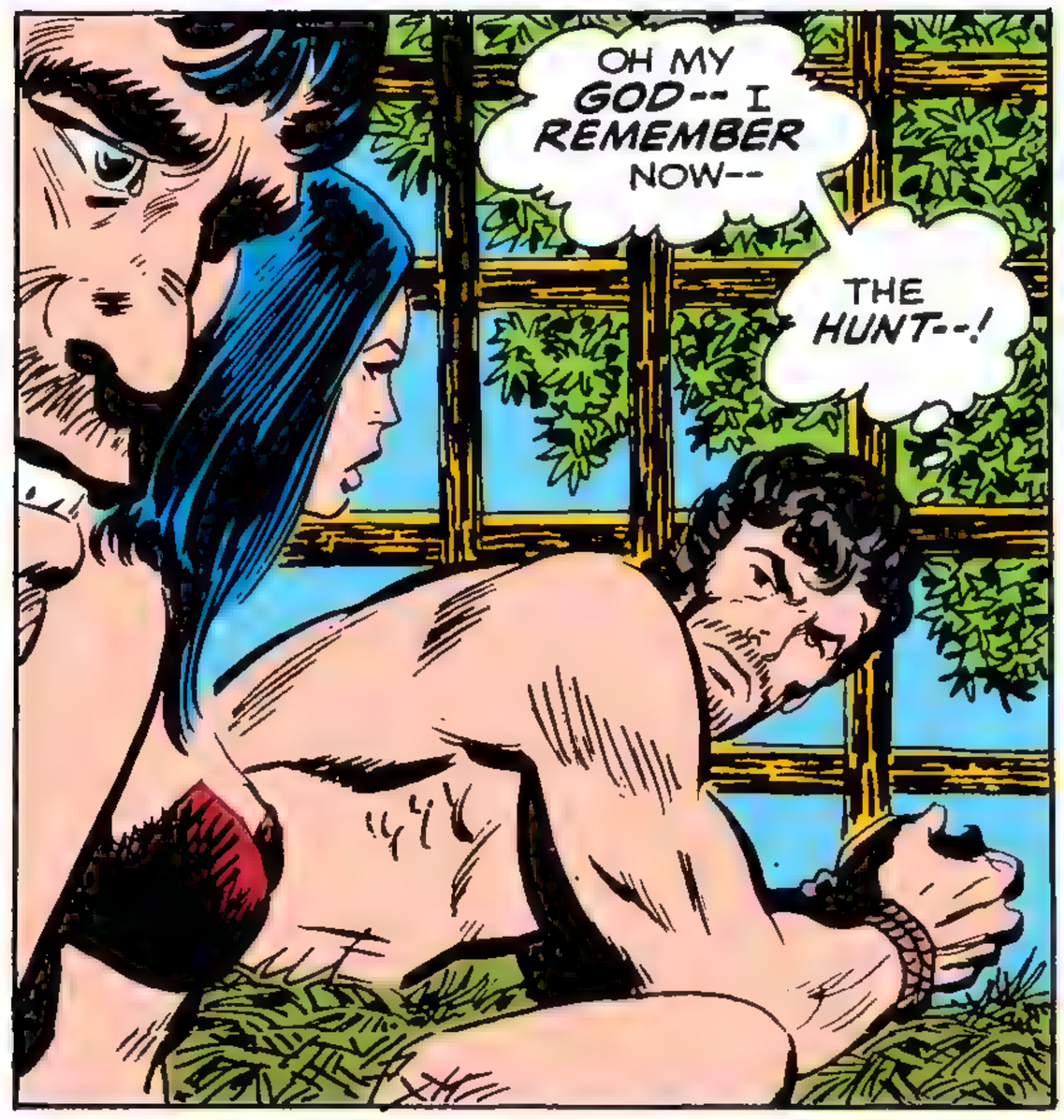
WORLD OF CAPTIVE HUMANS

ALL RIGHT-- SO MY EARS WERE PLAYING TRICKS ON ME! YOU ACT AS THOUGH I COMMITTED A SIN!

AND YOU ACT AS THOUGH YOU DIDN'T KNOW VERY WELL THAT ATTRIBUTING INTELLIGENCE TO A HUMAN--

--IS A SIN--
--A VERY SERIOUS ONE!

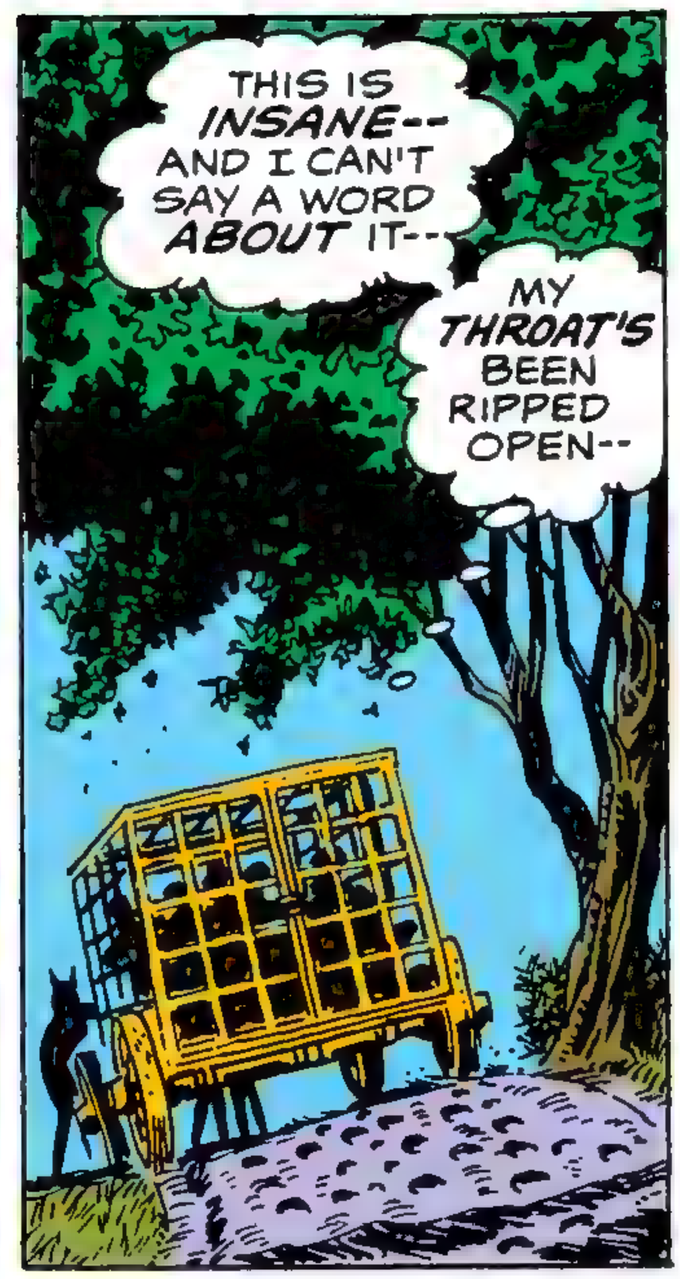
MY THROAT-- CAN'T TALK--
WHERE AM I--?


OH MY GOD-- I REMEMBER NOW--
THE HUNT--!

--IN WHICH THE HUMANS OF THIS PLANET WERE THE PREY--

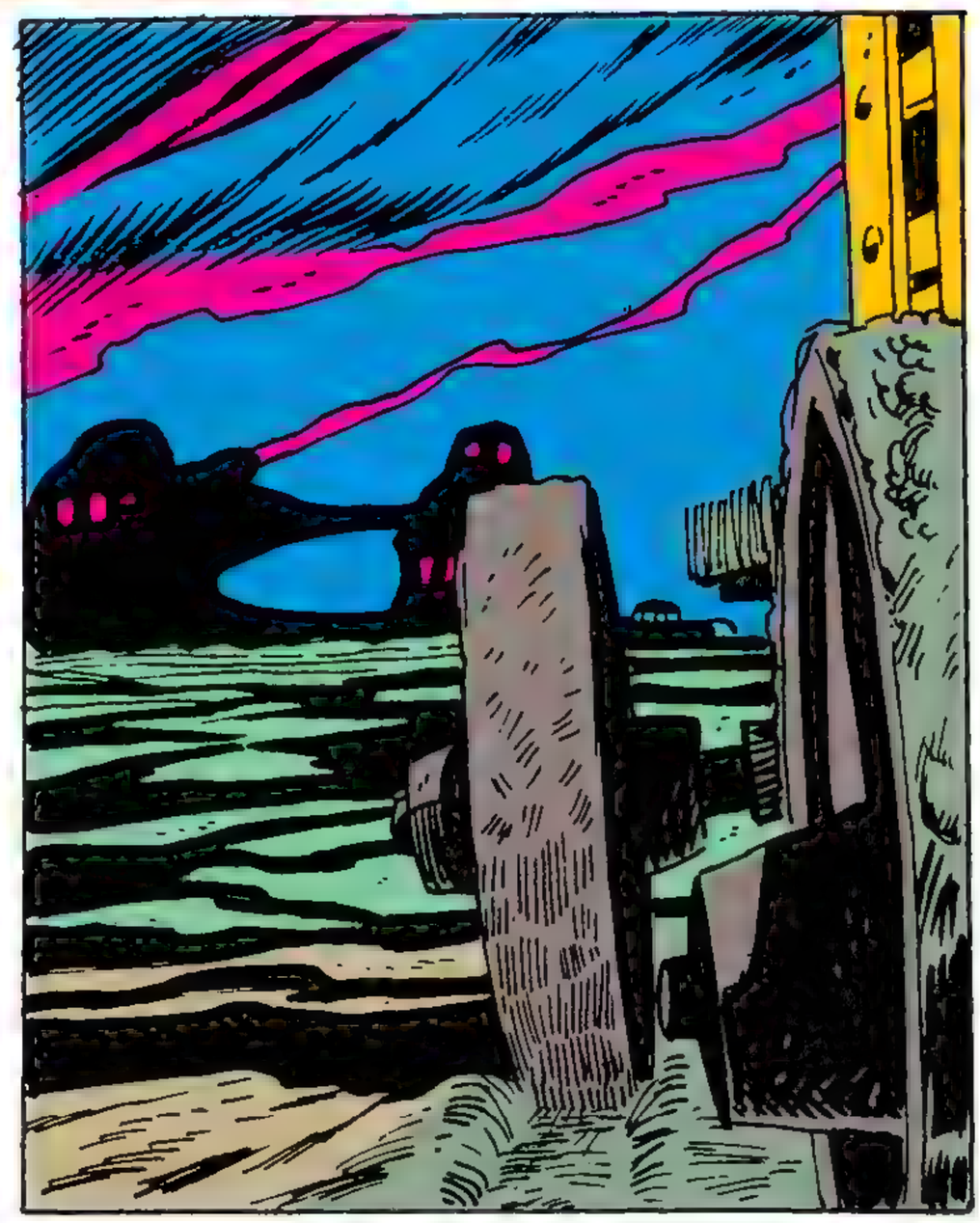
--AND THE PREDATORS WERE--

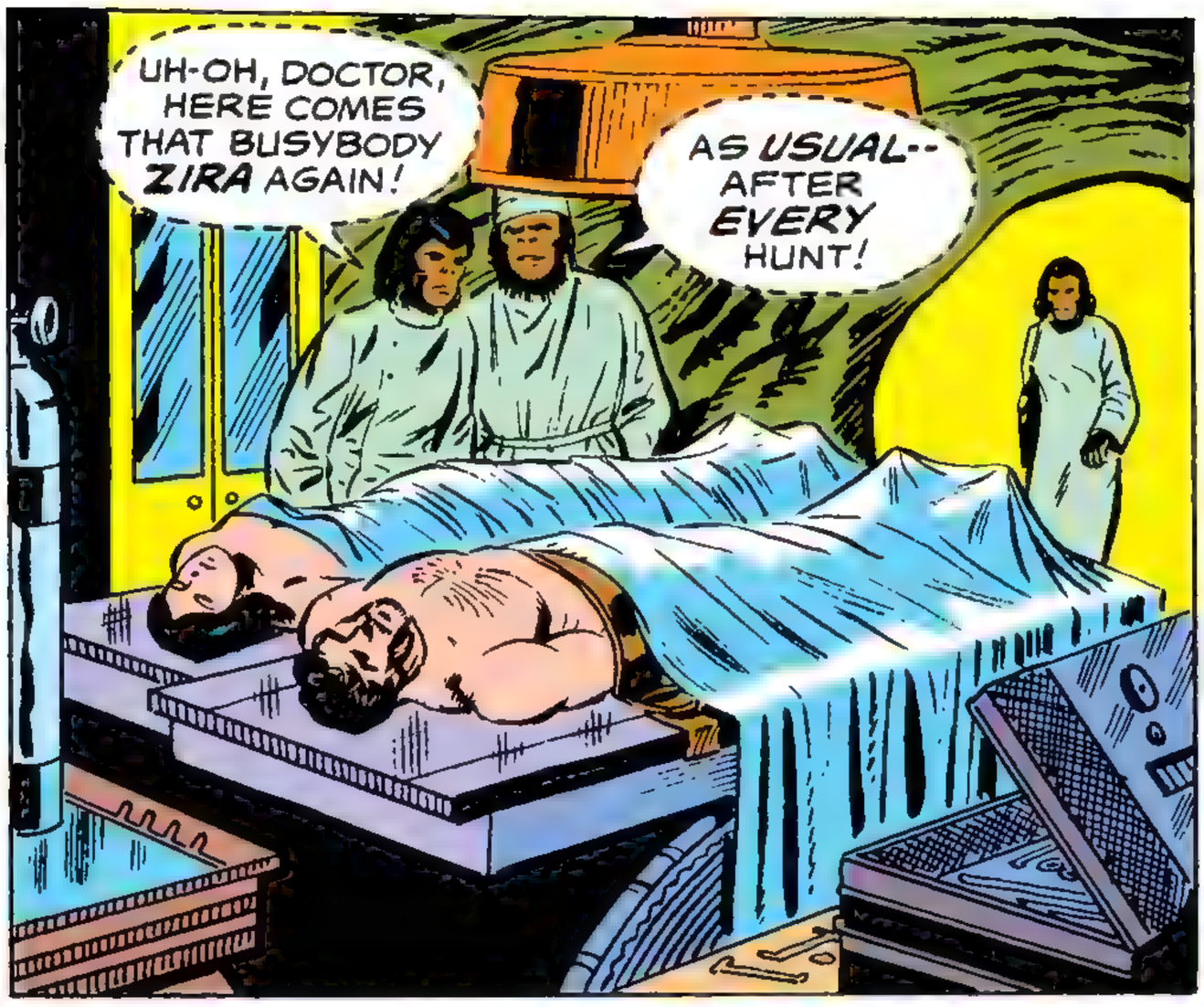
--APES-- GORILLAS WITH RIFLES--!
SMILE NOW--


THIS IS INSANE-- AND I CAN'T SAY A WORD ABOUT IT--
MY THROAT'S BEEN RIPPED OPEN--

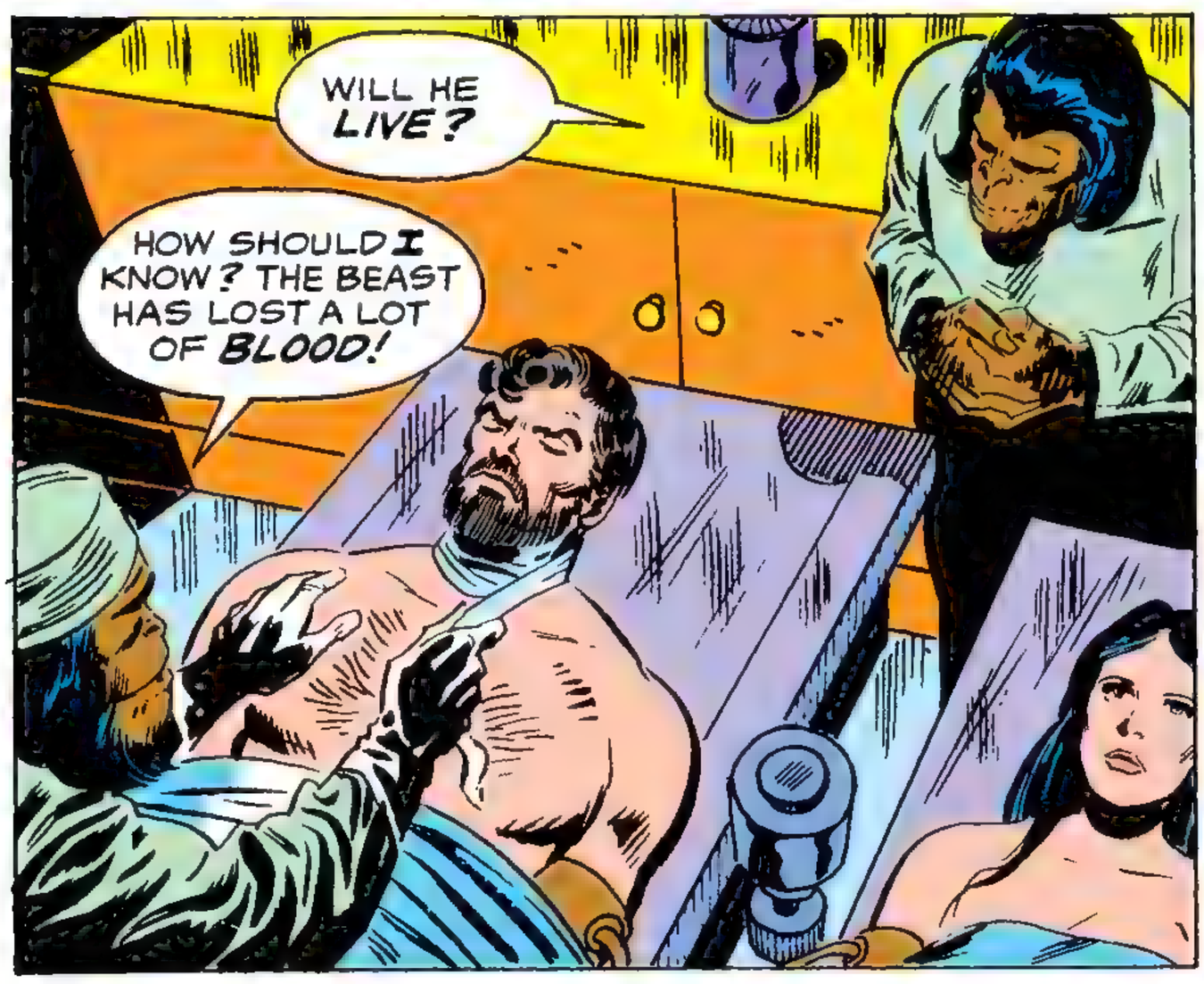
IF I LOSE MUCH MORE BLOOD--

--I'LL--




UH-OH, DOCTOR, HERE COMES THAT BUSYBODY ZIRA AGAIN!
AS USUAL-- AFTER EVERY HUNT!

WHICH ONE WAS WEARING THE STRANGE CLOTHES, DR. GALEN?
THE MALE ON THE TABLE!


WILL HE LIVE?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW? THE BEAST HAS LOST A LOT OF BLOOD!

WHY CAN'T I EVER FIND ANYTHING WHEN I NEED IT? THERE'S NO PROBE HERE-- FIND ONE!
YES, SIR!

THIS SURGERY ROOM IS DIRTY, DOCTOR!
THESE ANIMALS ARE DIRTY, DOCTOR! THEY STINK-- AND THEY CARRY COMMUNICABLE DISEASES! WHY AREN'T THEY CLEANED UP BEFORE THEY'RE BROUGHT HERE?

YOU DON'T SOUND HAPPY IN YOUR WORK!
WHY SHOULD I BE-- WHEN I'M NOTHING MORE THAN A VET IN THIS LABORATORY?

WHICH REMINDS ME--YOU PROMISED TO SPEAK TO DR. ZAIUS ABOUT GETTING ME A PROMOTION!
I DID! BUT YOU KNOW HOW HE LOOKS DOWN HIS NOSE AT CHIMPANZEES!

BUT THE QUOTA SYSTEM'S BEEN ABOLISHED! YOU MADE IT! WHY CAN'T I?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, MADE IT? I'M AN ANIMAL PSYCHOLOGIST AND NOTHING MORE! WE DON'T HAVE ANY REAL AUTHORITY!

YOU DO PRETTY WELL WHEN IT COMES TO GETTING SPACE AND EQUIPMENT!
THAT'S BECAUSE DR. ZAIUS REALIZES OUR WORK HAS VALUE!

HMPH!
THE VERY FOUNDATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC BRAIN SURGERY ARE BEING LAID IN OUR WORK--IN STUDIES OF THE CEREBRAL FUNCTION OF THESE ANIMALS!

THEY'RE STILL DIRTY-- AND THEIR BITE IS SEPTIC!
JUST TAKE A LOOK AT MY HAND--!

LOUSY BEASTS!

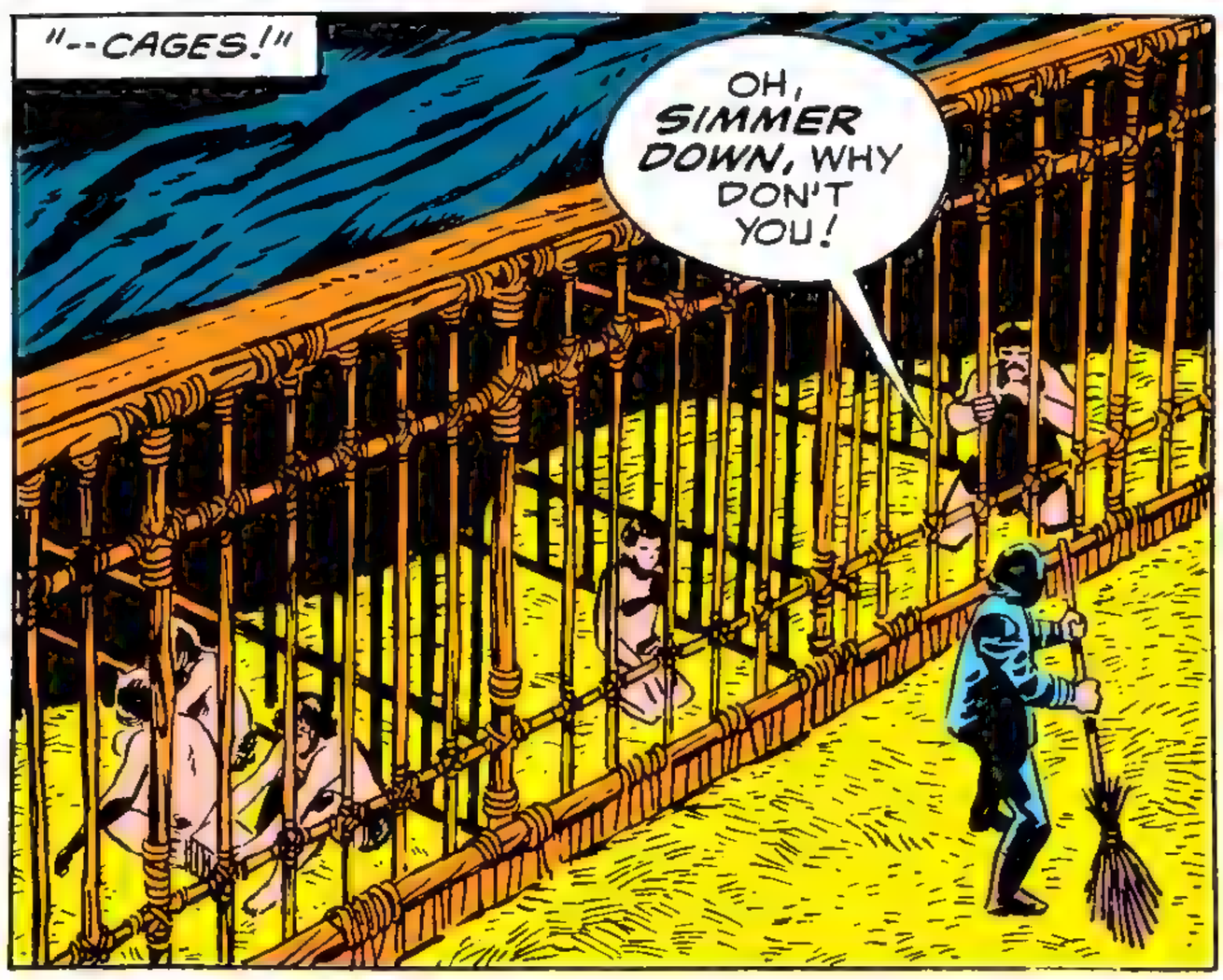
NURSE-- HOLD THE BEAST'S HEAD STILL WHILE I--

-- PROBE HIS THROAT-WOUND!

HE'S PASSED OUT AGAIN!
THESE BEAST CAN'T TOLERATE THE SLIGHTEST BIT OF PAIN--

WELL, THAT'S ALL I CAN DO! I DON'T KNOW WHETHER HIS LARYNX WILL REPAIR ITSELF OR NOT!

YOU MIGHT AS WELL RETURN THEM TO THEIR--


"--CAGES!"
OH, SIMMER DOWN, WHY DON'T YOU!

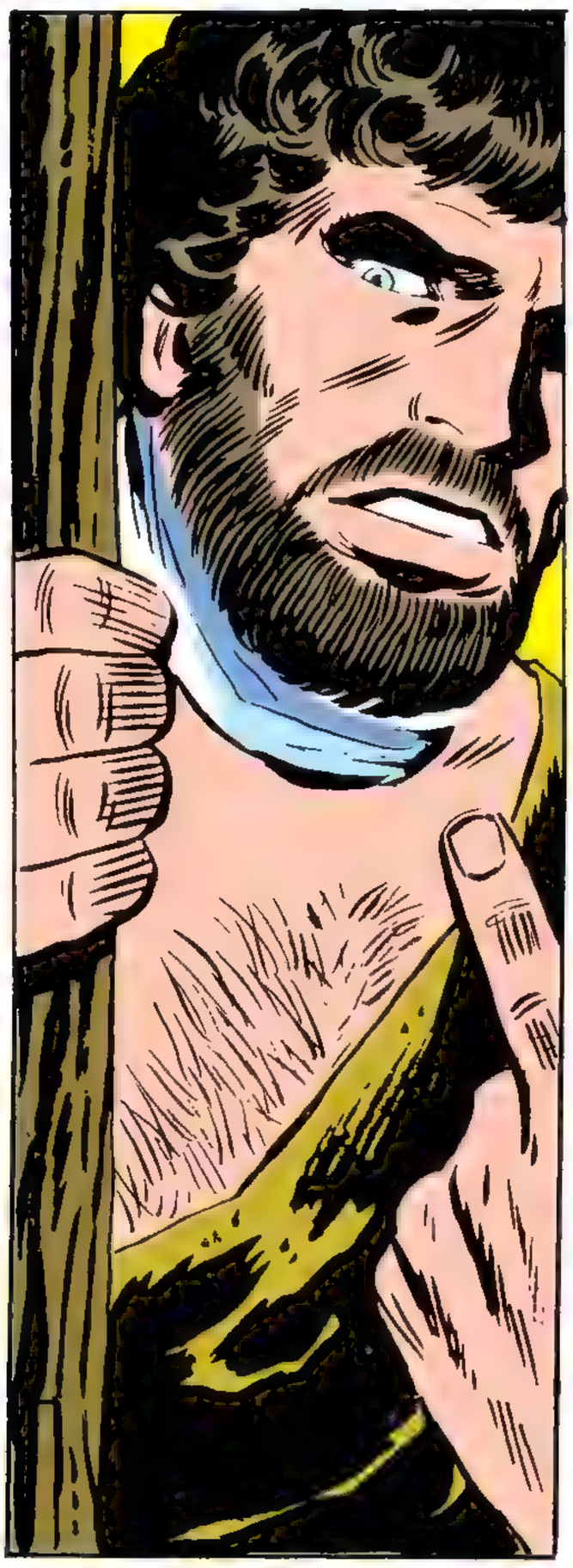
PLAY WITH YOUR BLOCKS-- OR EAT A BANANA-- LIKE THE REST OF THE ANIMALS!

GOOD MORNING, DR. ZIRA!
GOOD MORNING, JULIUS! HOW'S OUR PATIENT TODAY?

NO CHANGE! THE MINUTE YOU COME NEAR HIM HE GOES INTO HIS ACT! SEE FOR YOURSELF!
YES, HE DOES SEEM TO HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT ON HIS MIND!

DON'T GO SO CLOSE TO HIM, DOCTOR--YOU COULD GET HURT--!
DON'T BE SILLY! HE'S PERFECTLY TAME!
THEY'RE ALL TAME UNTIL THEY TAKE A CHUNK OUT OF YOU!

WELL, BRIGHT EYES, IS OUR THROAT FEELING BETTER TODAY?



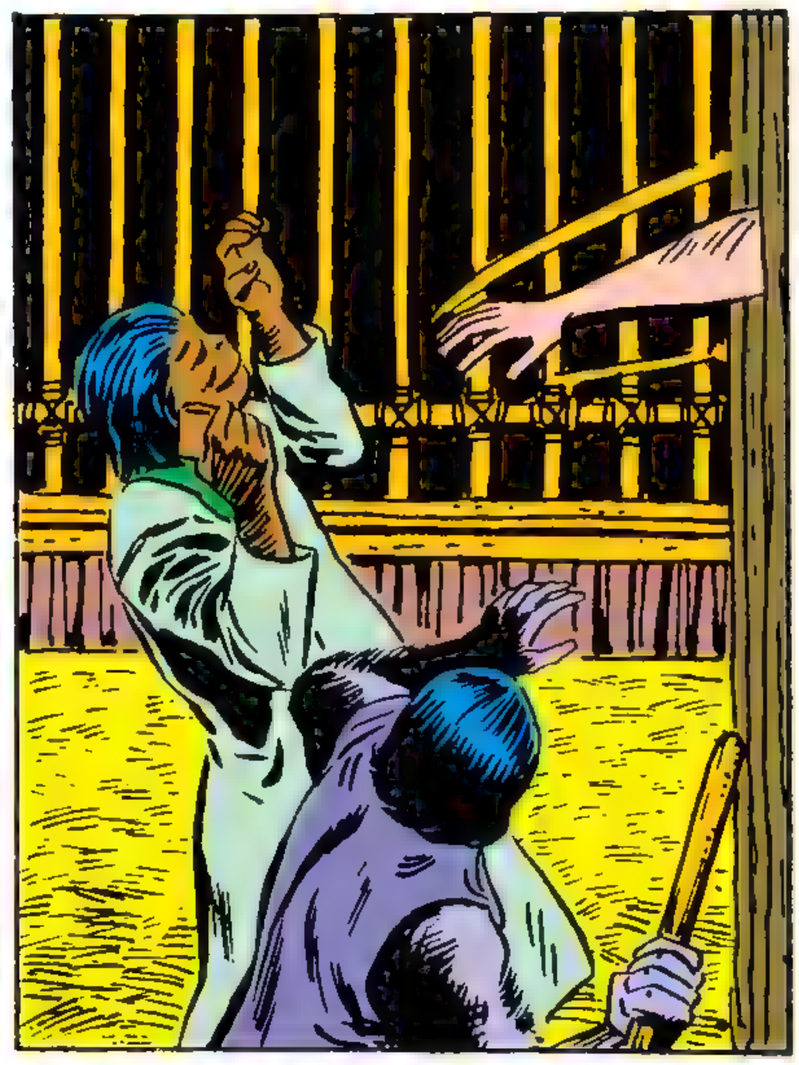
SEE? HE KEEPS PRETENDING HE CAN TALK!

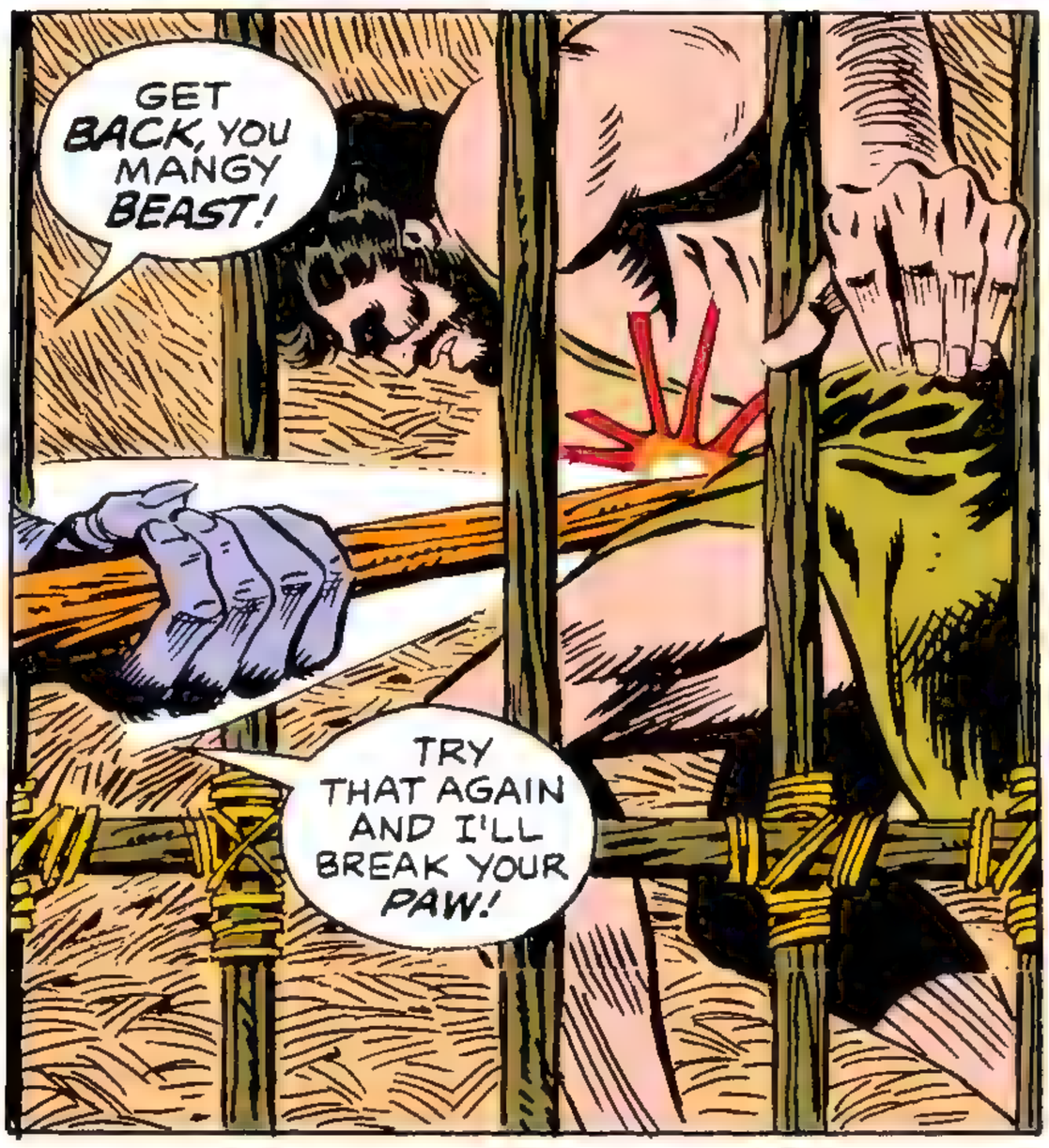
DID YOU SEE THAT? IT'S REMARKABLE!
HUH?

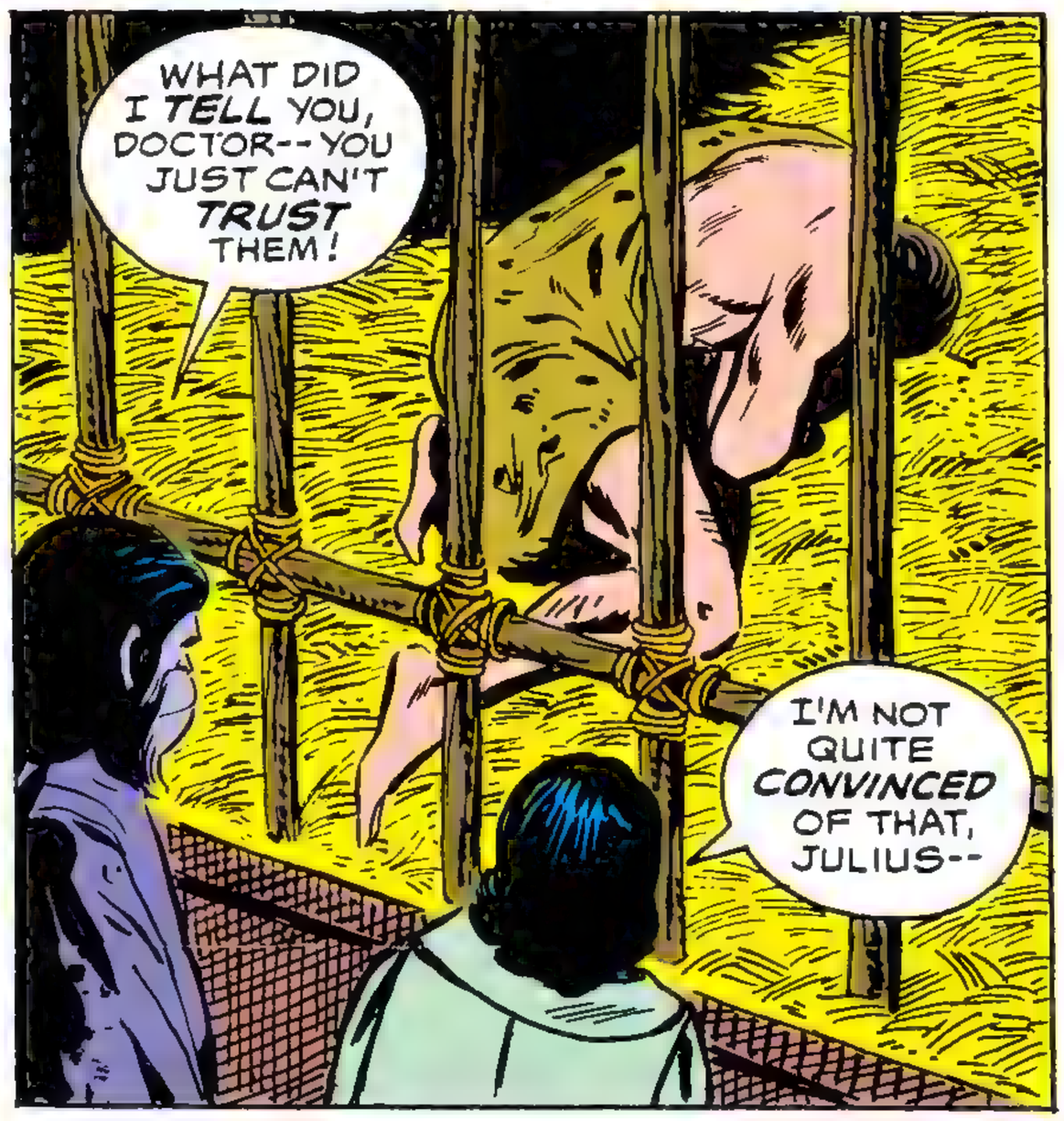
HE GOT ANGRY AT YOU-- TRIED TO FORM WORDS!
WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY-- HUMAN SEE, HUMAN DO!

NOW WHAT'S HE DOING?
HE SEEMS TO WANT SOMETHING!

I'D BE CAREFUL IF I WERE YOU, DOCTOR--

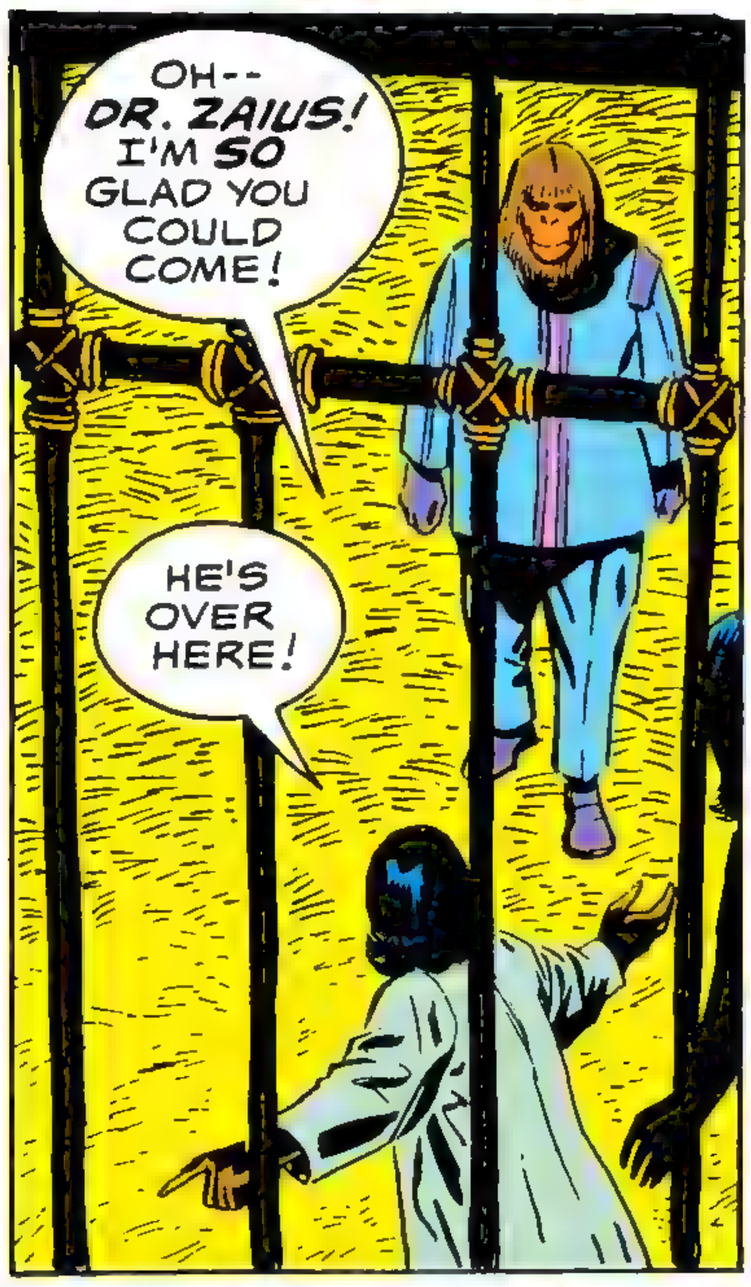



GET BACK, YOU MANGY BEAST!
TRY THAT AGAIN AND I'LL BREAK YOUR PAW!


WHAT DID I TELL YOU, DOCTOR-- YOU JUST CAN'T TRUST THEM!
I'M NOT QUITE CONVINCED OF THAT, JULIUS--

IN FACT, I'M CONVINCED OF JUST THE--
G-GOOD MORNING, YOUR EXCELLENCY!

WHAT'S THAT--?


OH-- DR. ZAIUS! I'M SO GLAD YOU COULD COME!
HE'S OVER HERE!

BRIGHT EYES, SHOW HIM! GO AHEAD-- DO YOUR TRICK FOR DR. ZAIUS!
I'M WAITING, ZIRA!

SPEAK! GO ON-- SPEAK AGAIN--!

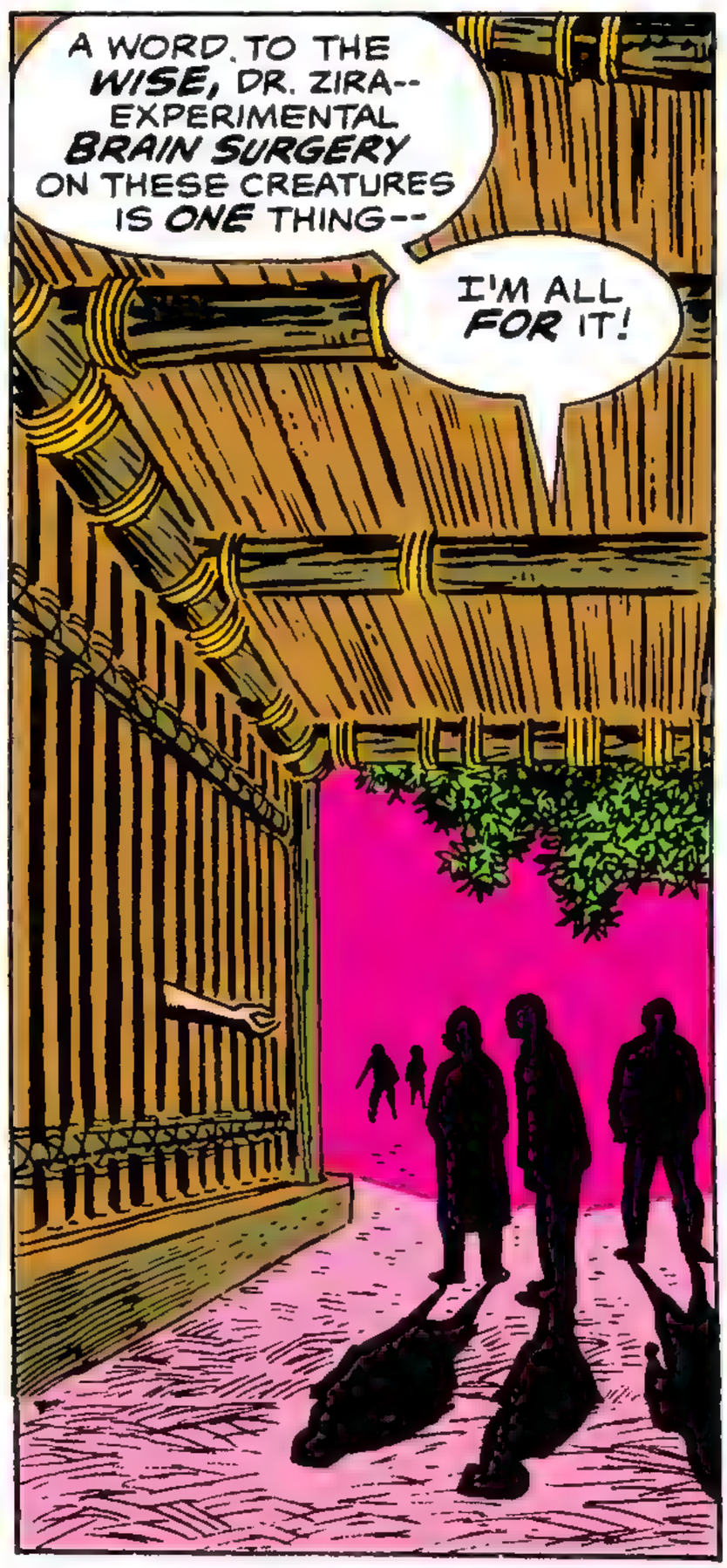
THERE! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT! DOESN'T IT LOOK AS THOUGH HE'S TALKING?!
YES-- AMUSING! A MAN WHO ACTS LIKE AN APE!

DR. ZAIUS-- I COULD SWEAR HE'S TRYING TO ANSWER YOU--!
YES, HE DOES SHOW A CERTAIN GIFT FOR MIMICRY!

I WONDER HOW HE'D SCORE ON A HOPKINS MANUAL DEXTERITY TEST--?
AN ANIMAL?
LOOK!

HE'S MOVING HIS FINGERS!
OF COURSE! HE SAW ZIRA MOVING HERS!
BUT PERHAPS HE UNDER-STOOD--

MAN HAS NO UNDERSTANDING, DR. ZIRA! HE CAN BE TAUGHT A FEW SIMPLE TRICKS NOTHING MORE!
I BEG TO DISAGREE! ACCORDING TO MY EXPERIMENTS--


A WORD TO THE WISE, DR. ZIRA-- EXPERIMENTAL BRAIN SURGERY ON THESE CREATURES IS ONE THING--
I'M ALL FOR IT!

BUT YOUR BEHAVIORAL STUDIES ARE ANOTHER MATTER ENTIRELY!

TO SUGGEST THAT WE CAN LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT SIMIAN NATURE FROM A STUDY OF MAN IS NONSENSE! BESIDES, MEN ARE A NUISANCE!
THEY OUTGROW THEIR OWN FOOD SUPPLY IN THE FOREST AND MIGRATE TO THE GREEN BELTS TO RAVAGE OUR CROPS!

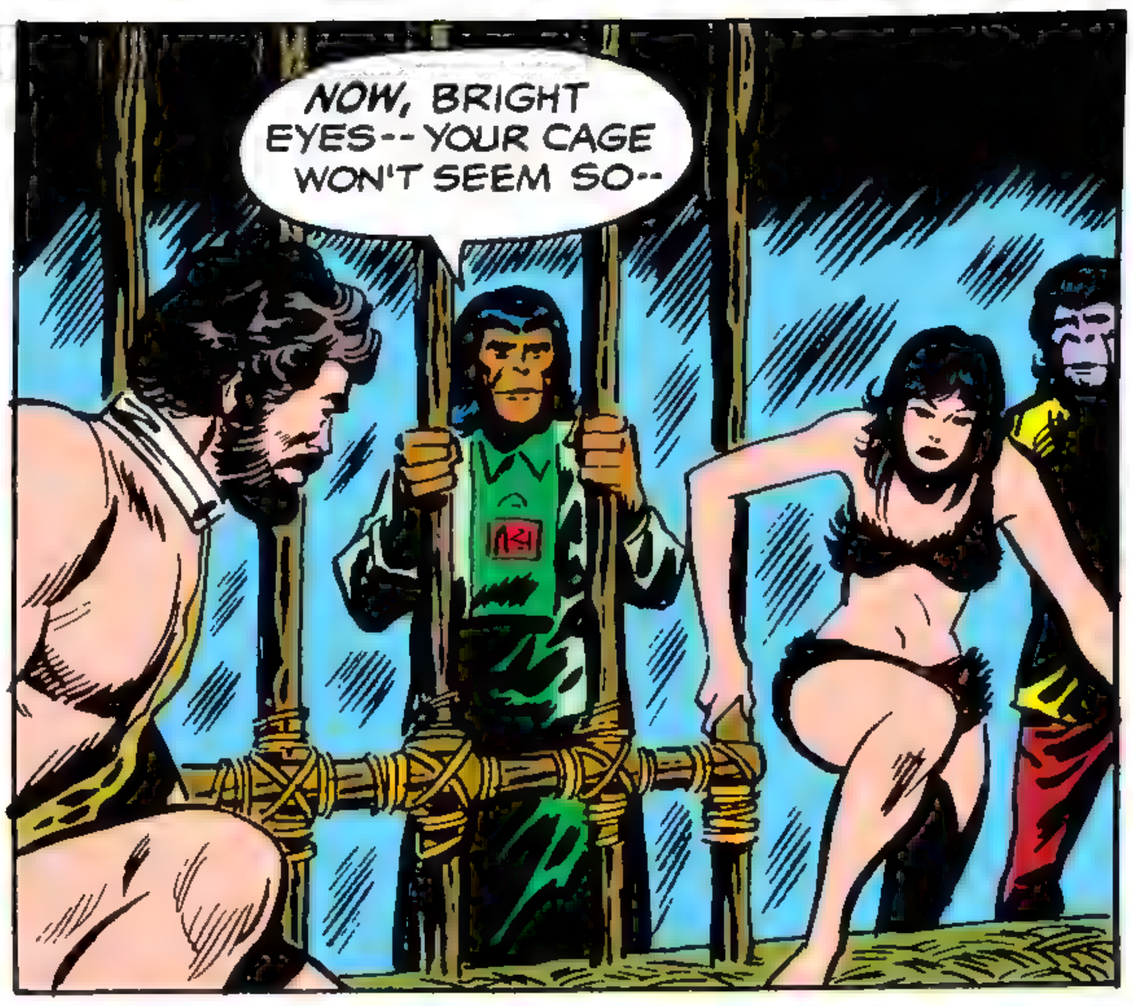
THE SOONER THEY'RE EXTERMINATED-- THE BETTER!

IT'S A QUESTION OF SIMIAN SURVIVAL!
DON'T FORGET IT, DR. ZIRA!
YES, SIR!

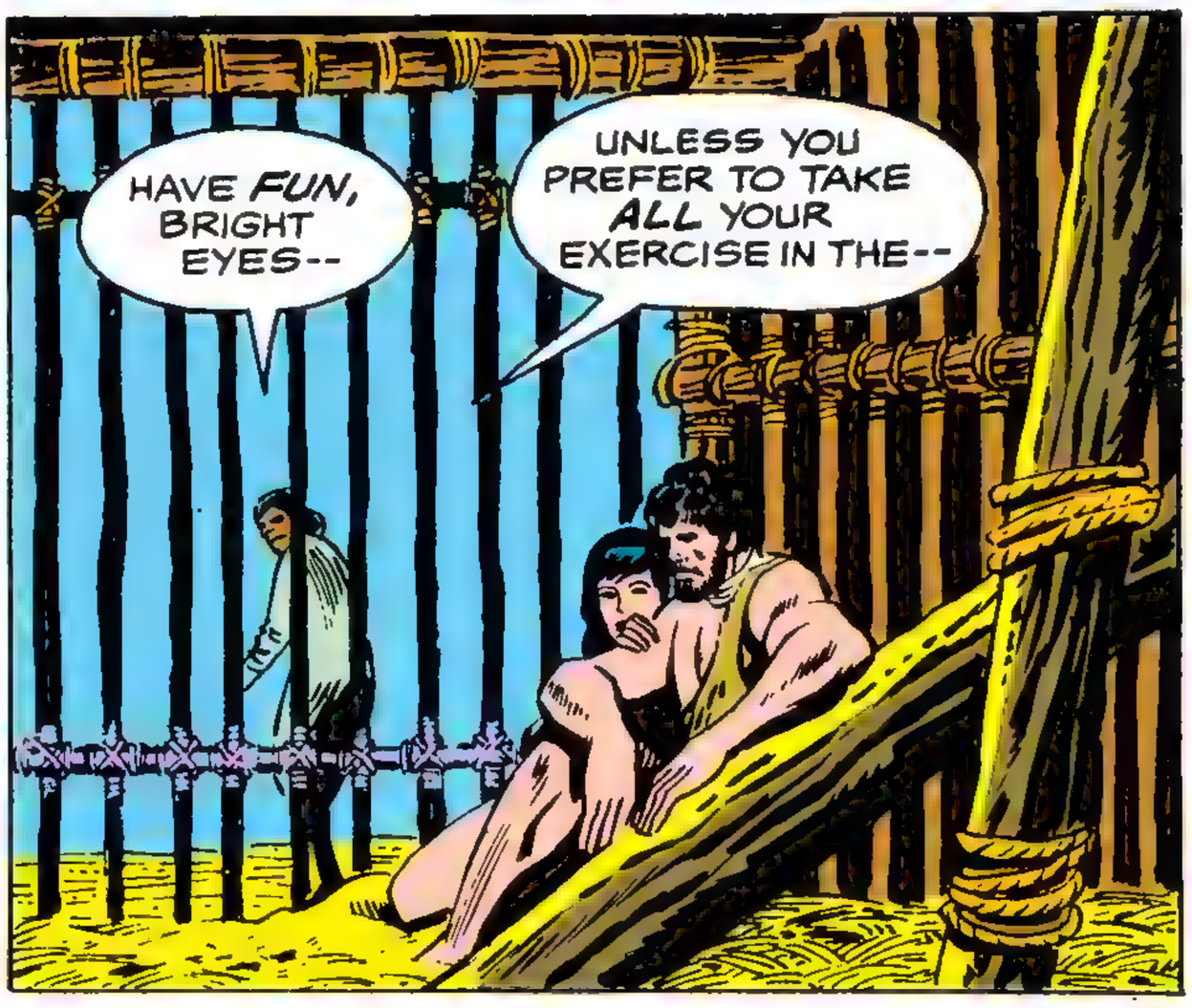
IS THIS THE ONE YOU WANTED, DOCTOR?
YES, THANK YOU!

BRIGHT EYES-- I'VE GOT A PRESENT FOR YOU--

PUT HER IN WITH HIM, GUARD!


NOW, BRIGHT EYES--YOUR CAGE WON'T SEEM SO--

--LONELY!


HAVE FUN, BRIGHT EYES--
UNLESS YOU PREFER TO TAKE ALL YOUR EXERCISE IN THE--

"--COMPOUND!"

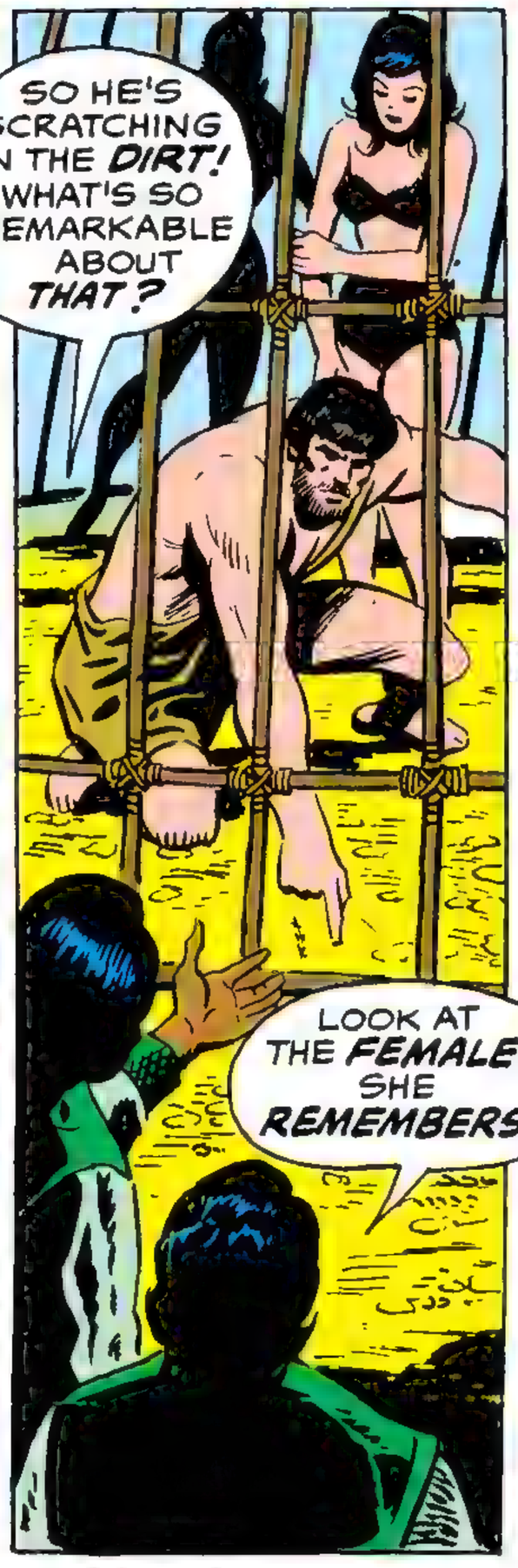
DO YOU HAVE TO WORK TONIGHT?
NO!
NEITHER DO I!

CORNELIUS--!

DO YOU HAVE TO DO THAT IN PUBLIC?
WHAT'S SO PUBLIC? THE ONLY THINGS AROUND ARE THE BEASTS IN THE COMPOUND--AND THE GORILLAS GUARDING THEM!

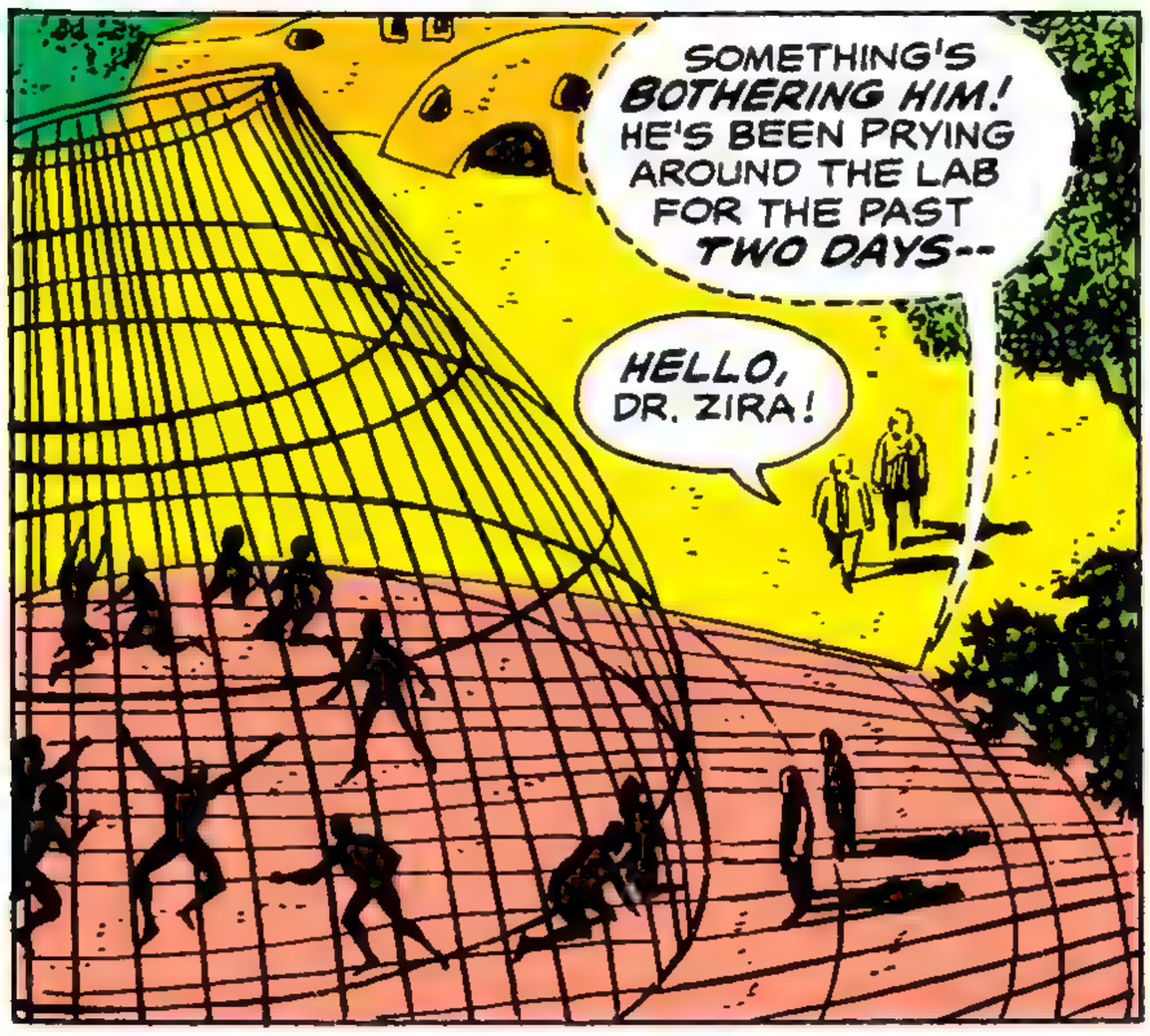
NEVER MIND THAT NOW! THAT'S BRIGHT EYES-- THE ONE I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT!
WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT HIM?

HELLO, BRIGHT EYES! HOW'S OUR THROAT COMING ALONG?


SO HE'S SCRATCHING IN THE DIRT! WHAT'S SO REMARKABLE ABOUT THAT?
LOOK AT THE FEMALE-- SHE REMEMBERS!

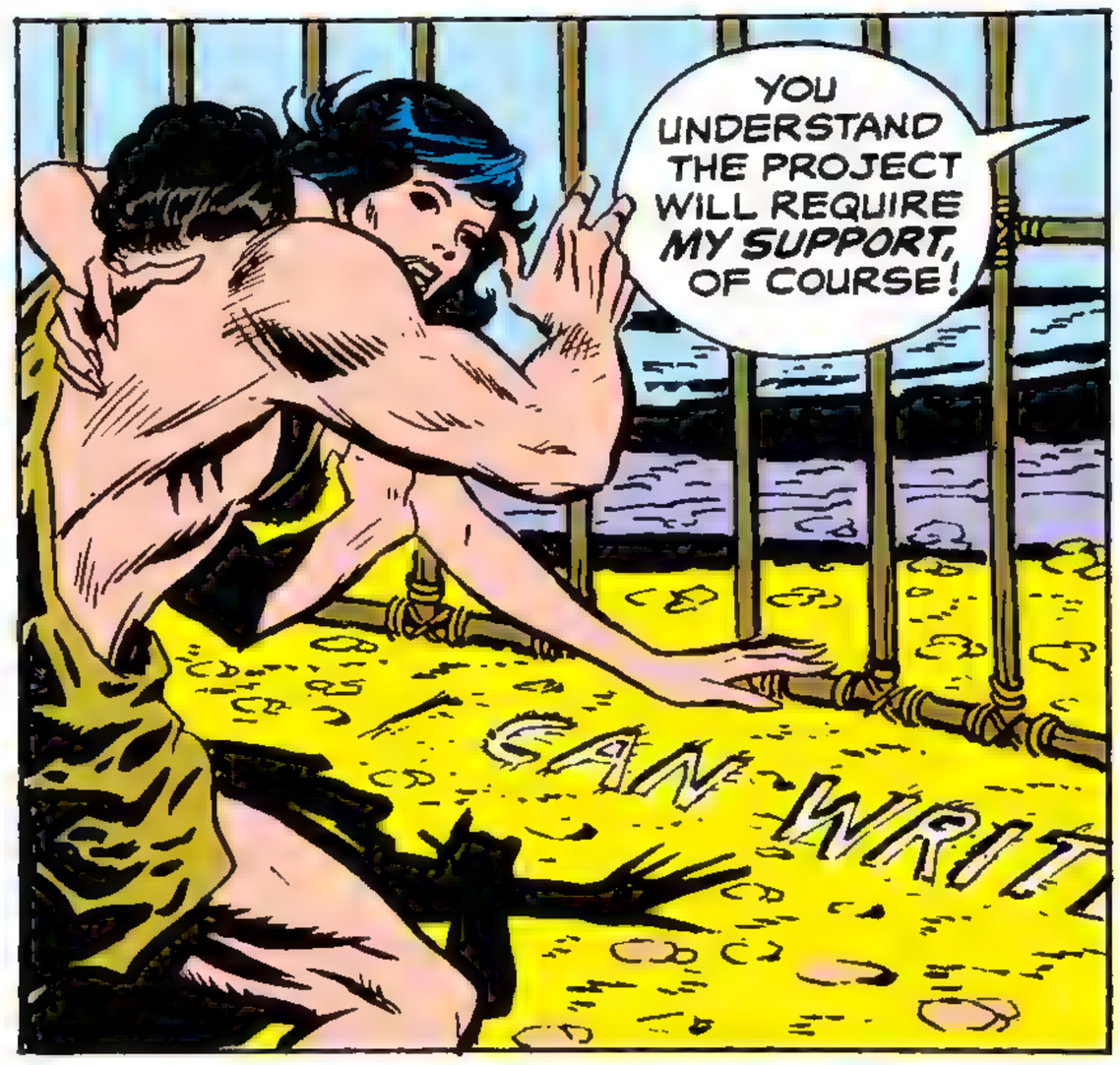
REMEMBERS WHAT?
THE BLOOD TRANSFUSION --SHE REMEMBERS IT!
OH COME ON, ZIRA-- YOU KNOW THEY CAN'T--

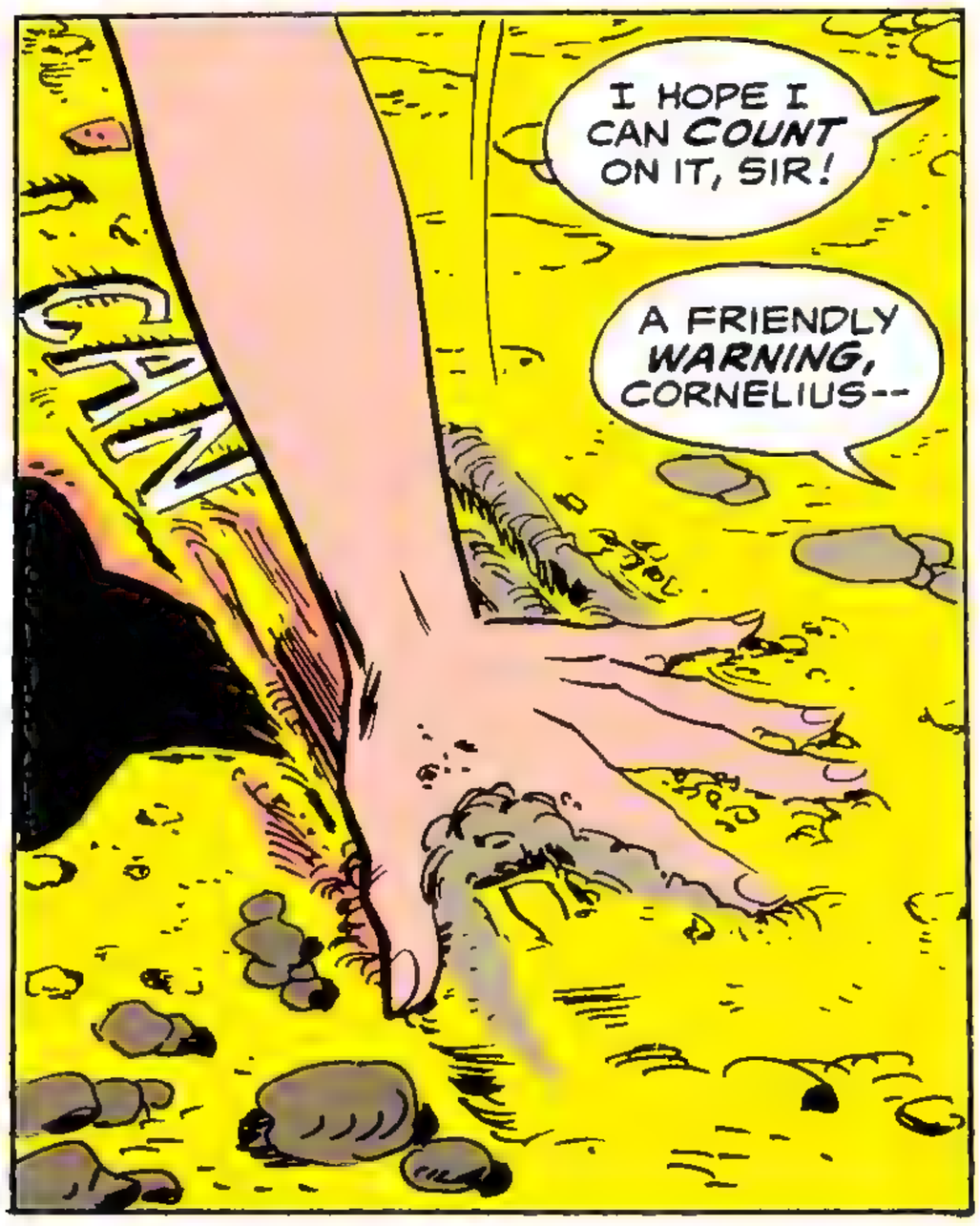
UH-OH! HERE COMES NUMBER ONE!


SOMETHING'S BOTHERING HIM! HE'S BEEN PRYING AROUND THE LAB FOR THE PAST TWO DAYS--
HELLO, DR. ZIRA!

GOOD MORNING, DR. ZAIUS! YOU KNOW DR. CORNELIUS, MY FIANCE--
OH, YES--THE YOUNG APE WITH A SHOVEL! I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE PLANNING ANOTHER ARCHEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION!

YES, SIR-- IF THE ACADEMY APPROVES--

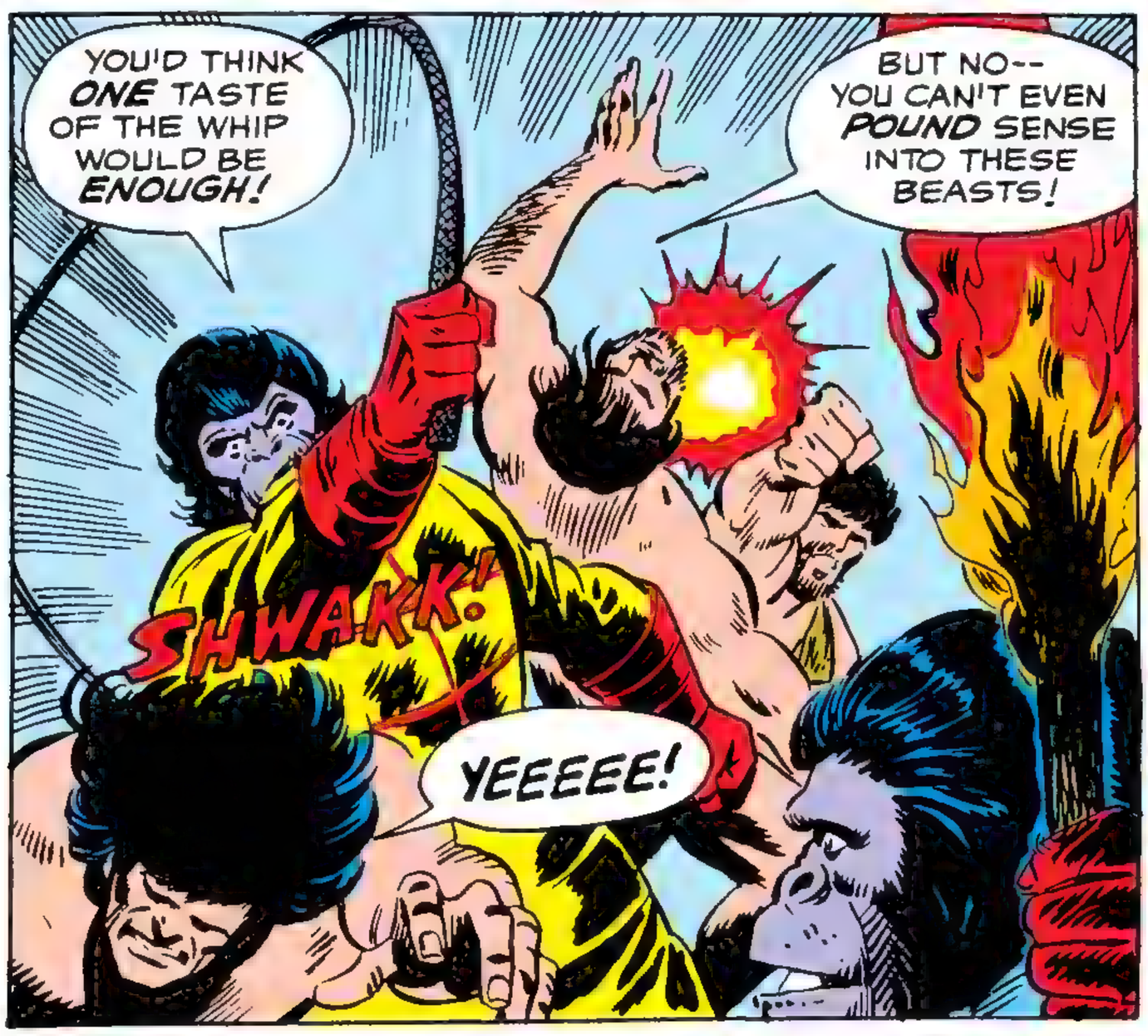

YOU UNDERSTAND THE PROJECT WILL REQUIRE MY SUPPORT, OF COURSE!


I HOPE I CAN COUNT ON IT, SIR!
A FRIENDLY WARNING, CORNELIUS--

--WHEN YOU'RE DIGGING FOR ARTIFACTS DON'T BURY YOUR REPUTATION!
GUARDS--!
SPUNCH!

THEY'VE STARTED TO FIGHT AGAIN-- THE STUPID BEASTS!

WHEN WILL THEY EVER LEARN--?!

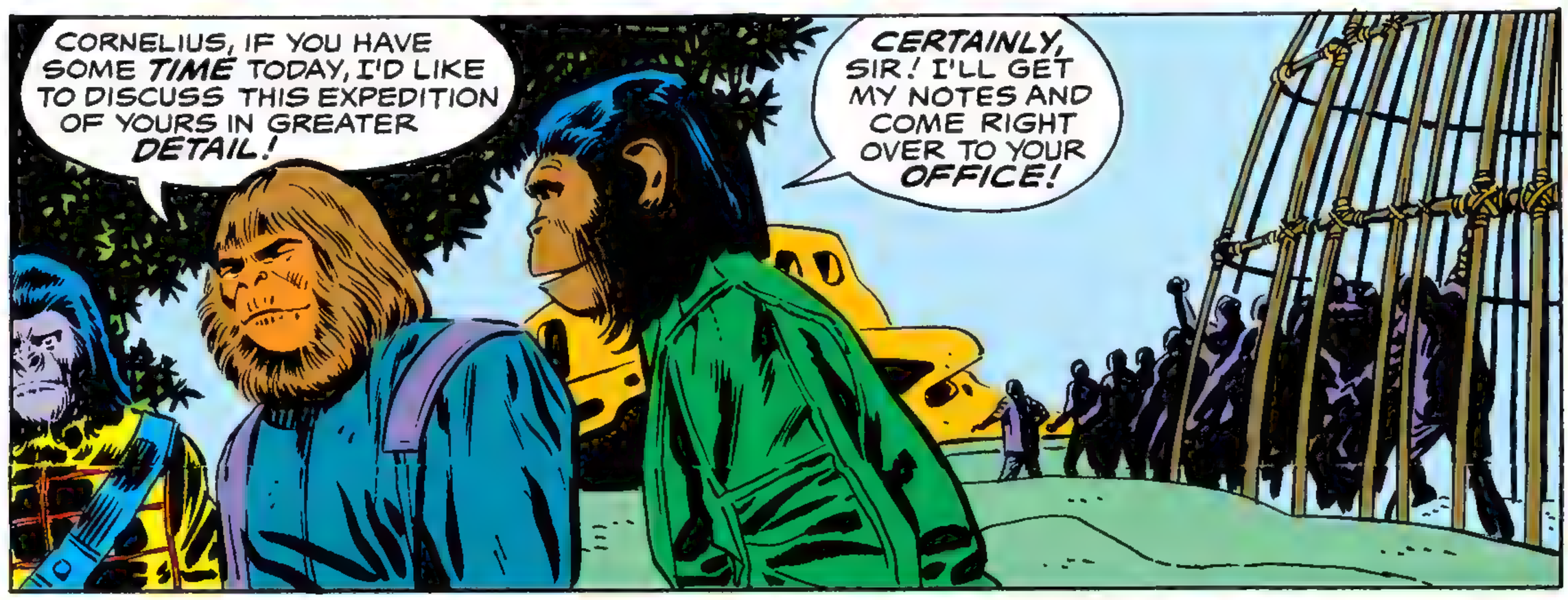

YOU'D THINK ONE TASTE OF THE WHIP WOULD BE ENOUGH!
BUT NO-- YOU CAN'T EVEN POUND SENSE INTO THESE BEASTS!
SHWAKK!
YEEEEE!

YEAH, BUT MAYBE THIS ONE'LL SIMMER DOWN AFTER HE'S--
WUDD!

--FELT SOME REAL HEAT!
SSSSZZZZ!

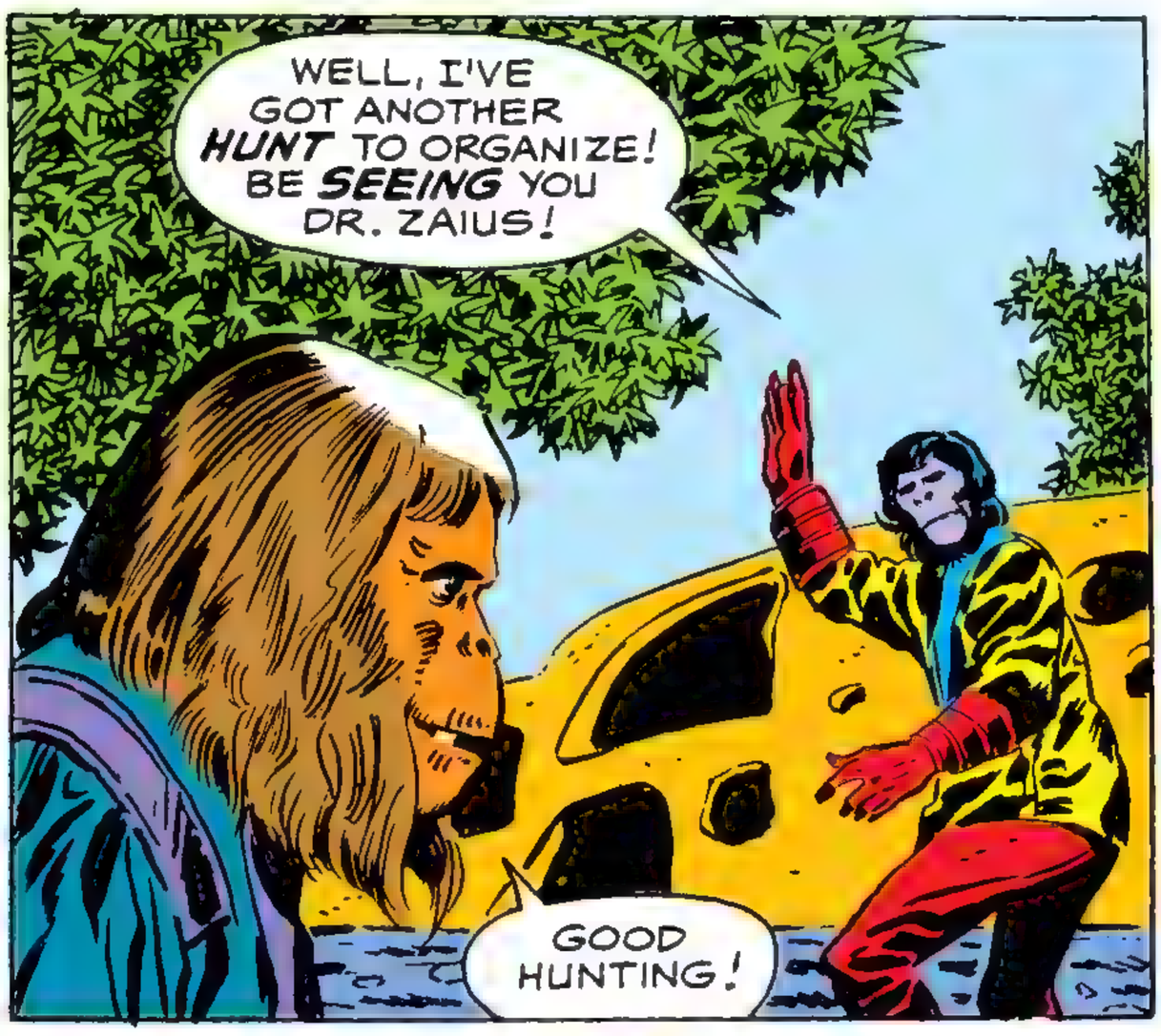
STOP--! YOU'VE HURT HIM!
STOP IT AT ONCE!

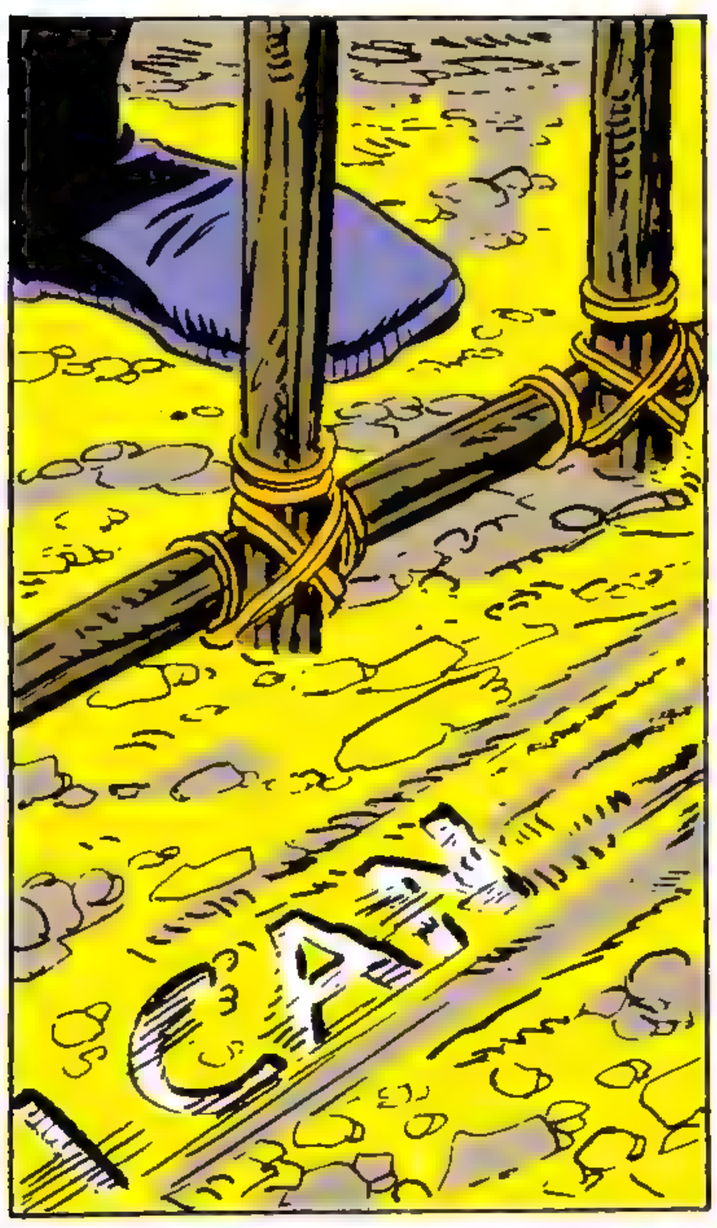
GET THEM OUT OF THERE!
WE'RE TAKING THEM INSIDE--!

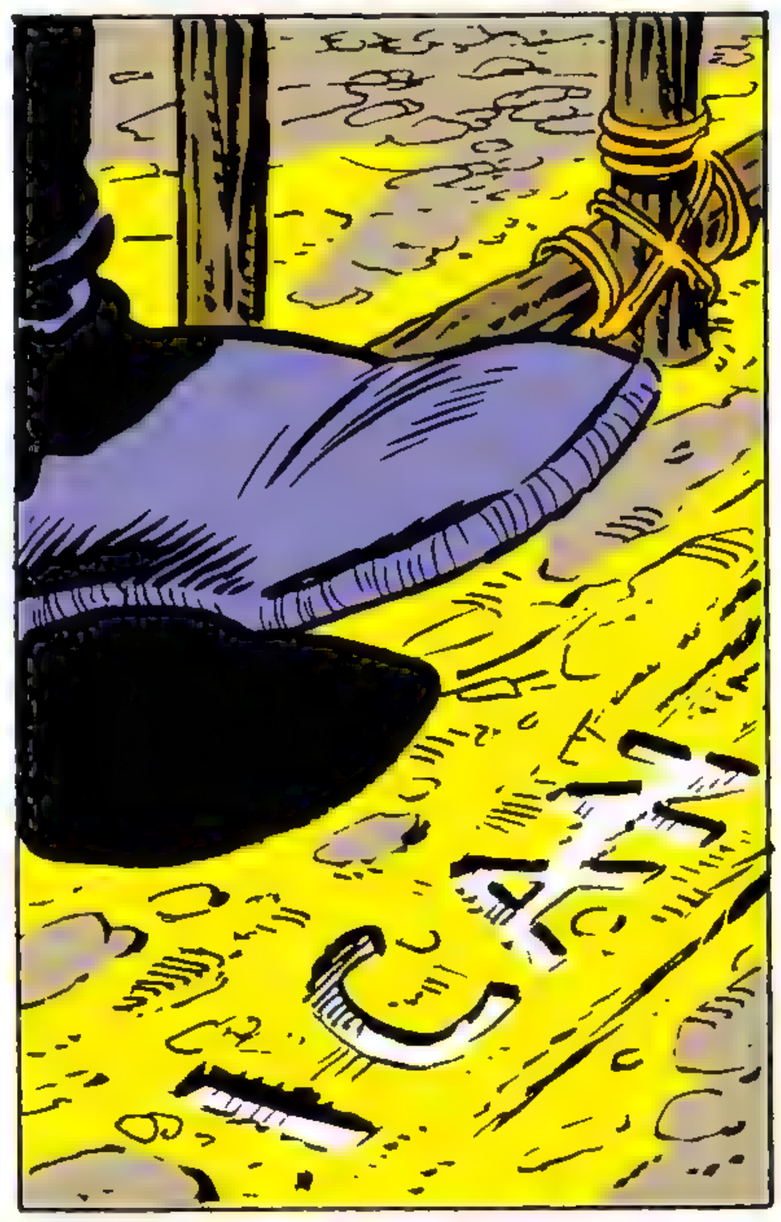

CORNELIUS, IF YOU HAVE SOME TIME TODAY, I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS THIS EXPEDITION OF YOURS IN GREATER DETAIL!
CERTAINLY, SIR! I'LL GET MY NOTES AND COME RIGHT OVER TO YOUR OFFICE!

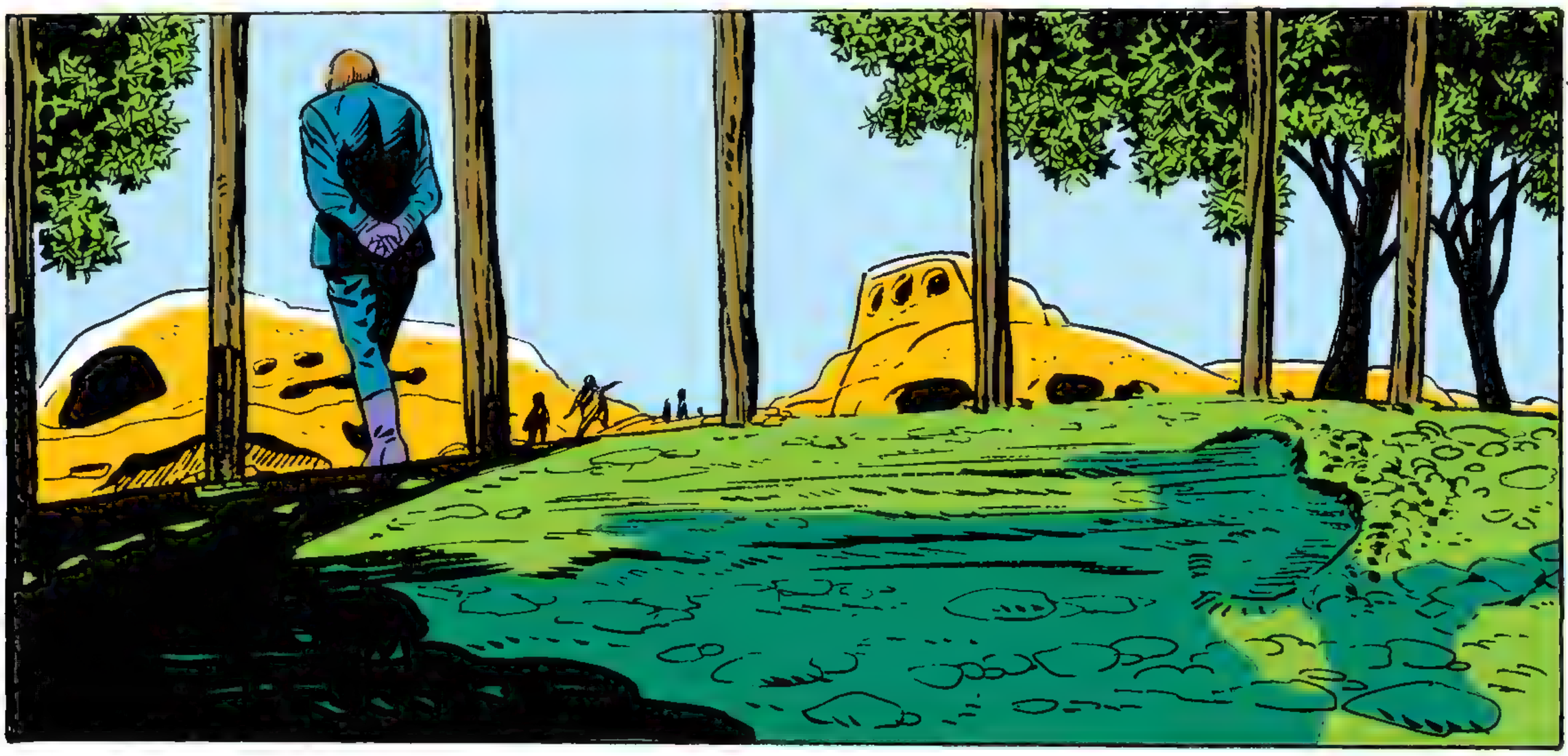
I DON'T UNDERSTAND THESE ANIMAL PHYCHOLOGISTS! WHAT'S DR. ZIRA TRYING TO PROVE--?
THAT MAN CAN BE DOMESTICATED!

HAW! THAT'S RICH, EH, DR. ZAIUS?
YES--IT IS AN AMUSING NOTION!


WELL, I'VE GOT ANOTHER *HUNT* TO ORGANIZE! BE *SEEING* YOU DR. ZAIUS!
GOOD HUNTING!







THOSES FOOLS AND THEIR TORCHES--!
I'M SORRY BRIGHT EYES! COME HERE-- I'VE GOT SOME OINTMENT--

I'M TELLING YOU JULIUS-- IT'S AS THOUGH HE UNDERSTANDS EVERY WORD I SAY!

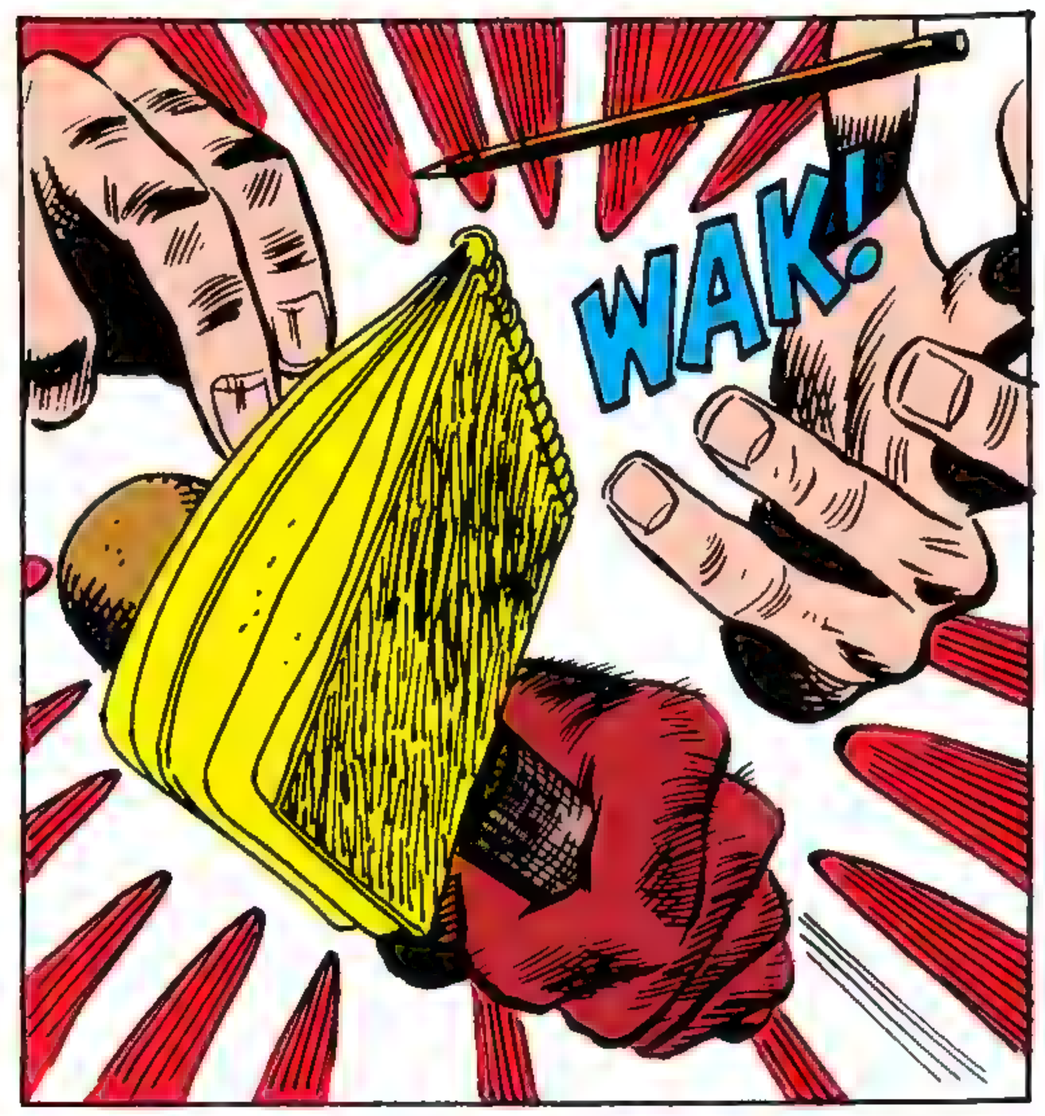
JUST BE CAREFUL, DR. ZIRA--

OH--!

I TOLD YOU WHAT YOU'D GET IF YOU TRIED THAT!

DROP THOSE THINGS, YOU STUPID BEAST!
JULIUS, DON'T! IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW!

IT MATTERS AS LONG AS I'M THE KEEPER OF THESE PENS!
WUMP!


WAK!

THAT OUGHT TO TEACH THE FLEA-RIDDEN ANIMAL!

NATURAL BORN THIEVES, AREN'T THEY?

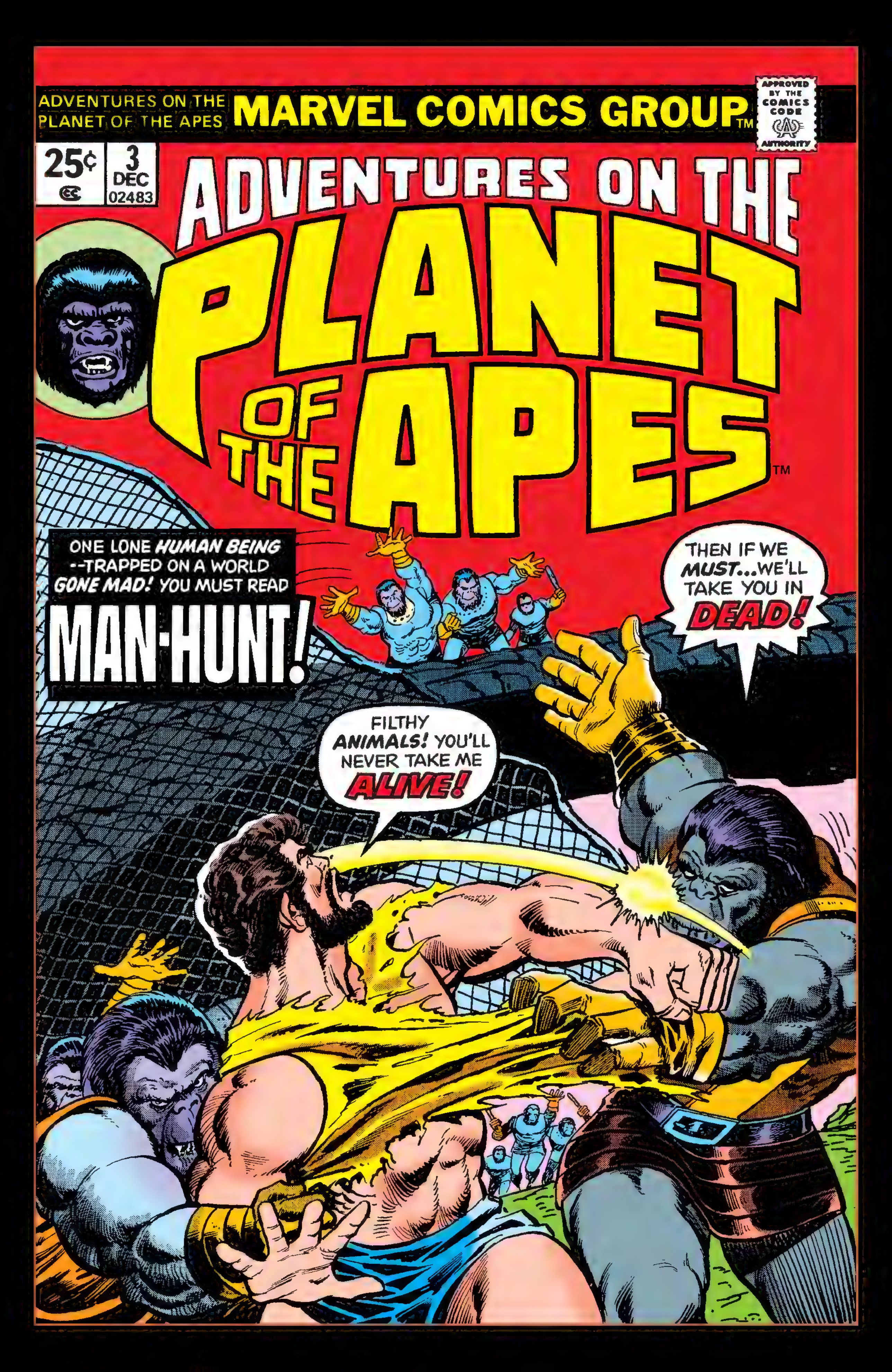
MY NAME IS TAYLOR-

GET ME A COLLAR AND LEASH! I'M TAKING HIM TO THE *INFIRMARY!*
BUT HE'S *VICIOUS*, BESIDES, IT'S AGAINST THE *RULES*--

DO AS I *SAY*--!

YOU WOULDN'T HURT ME, WOULD YOU--*TAYLOR?*

NEXT ISSUE: MANHUNT!


ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES
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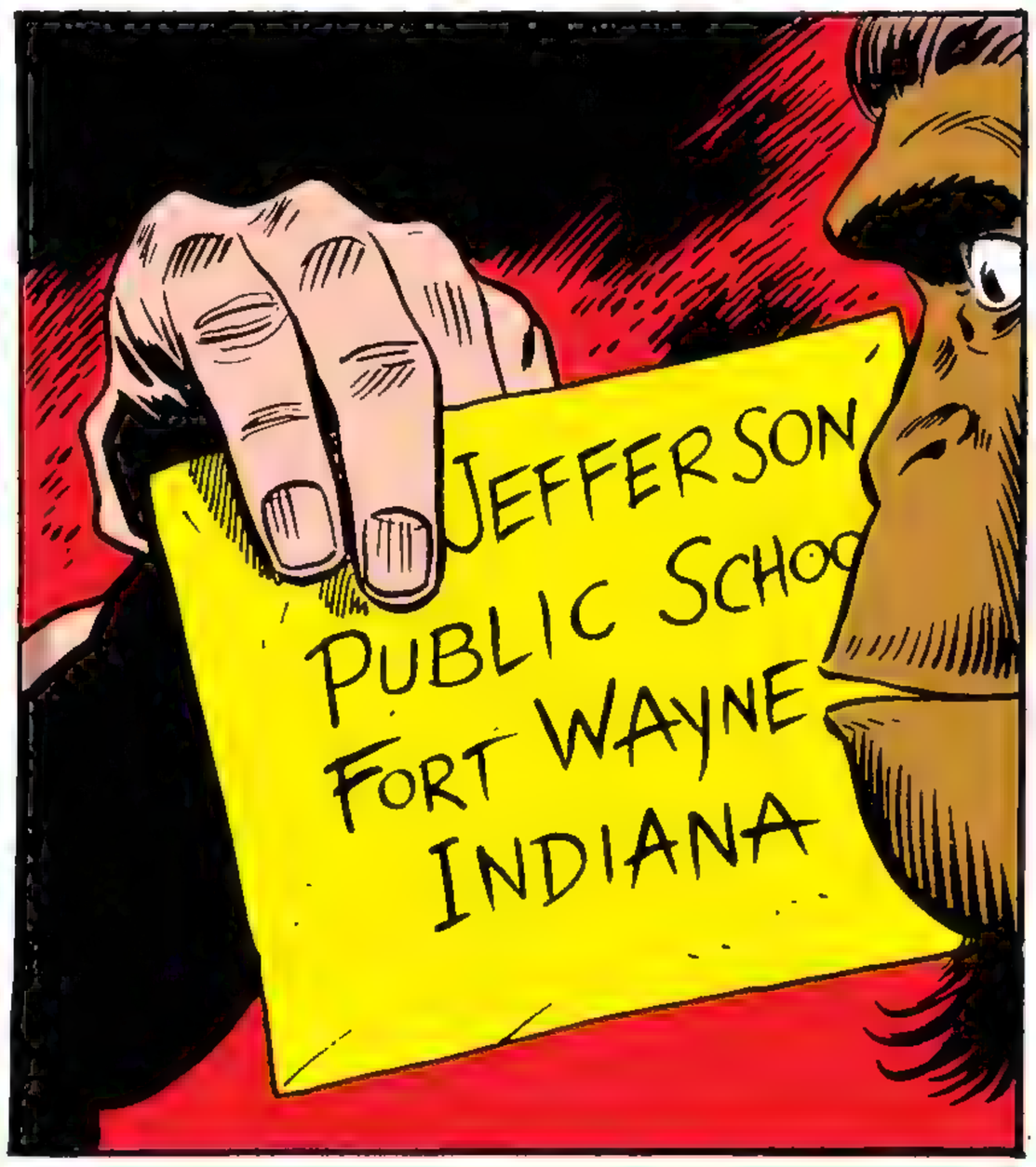
ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES™
ONE LONE HUMAN BEING --TRAPPED ON A WORLD GONE MAD! YOU MUST READ
MAN-HUNT!
THEN IF WE MUST...WE'LL TAKE YOU IN DEAD!
FILTHY ANIMALS! YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME ALIVE!

STAN LEE PRESENTS PLANET OF THE APES!™

MANHUNT!

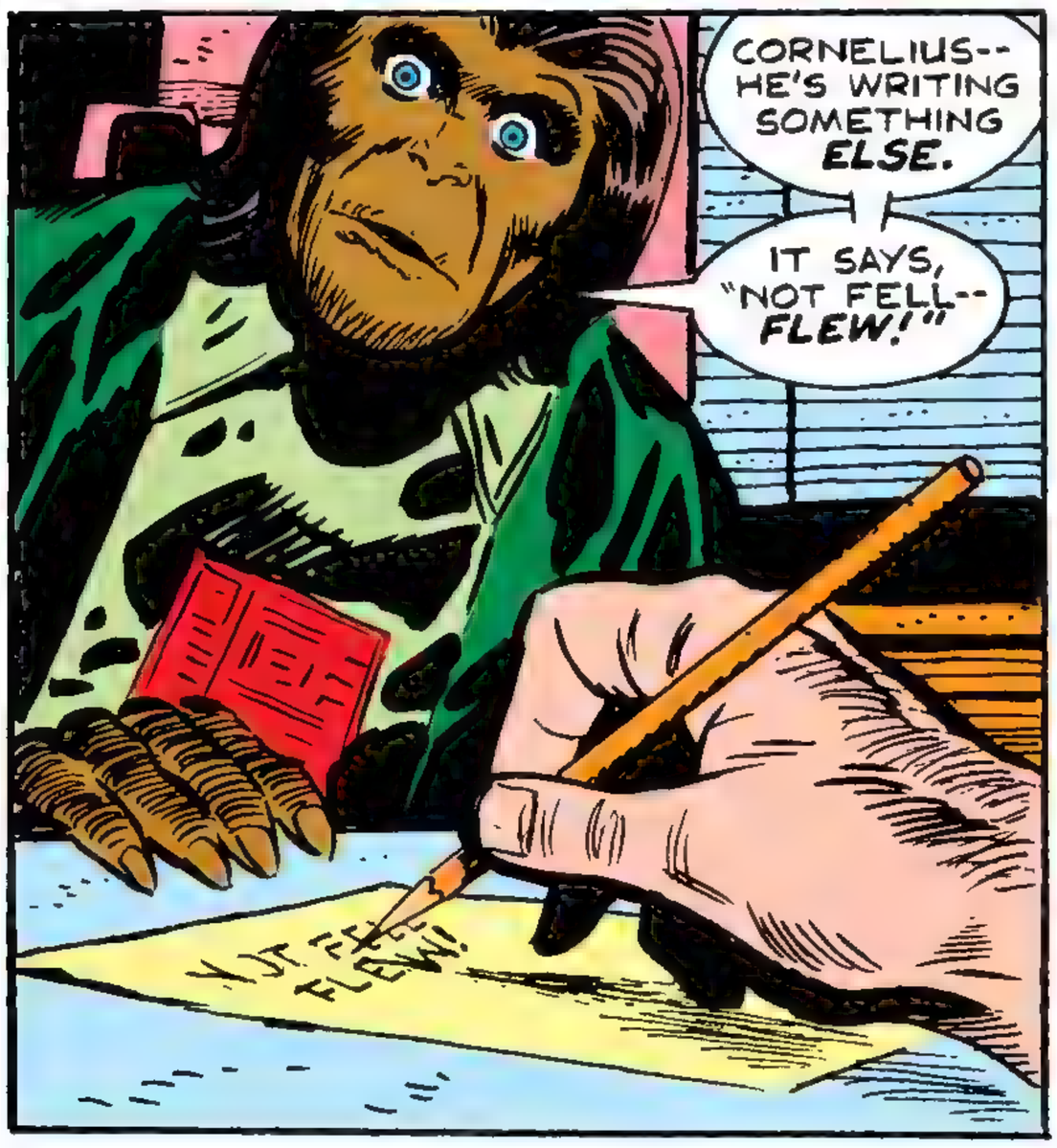
WRITER: DOUG MOENCH
PENCILER: GEORGE TUSKA
INKERS: M. ESPOSITO, T. MORTELLARO
COLORIST: GEORGE ROUSSOS



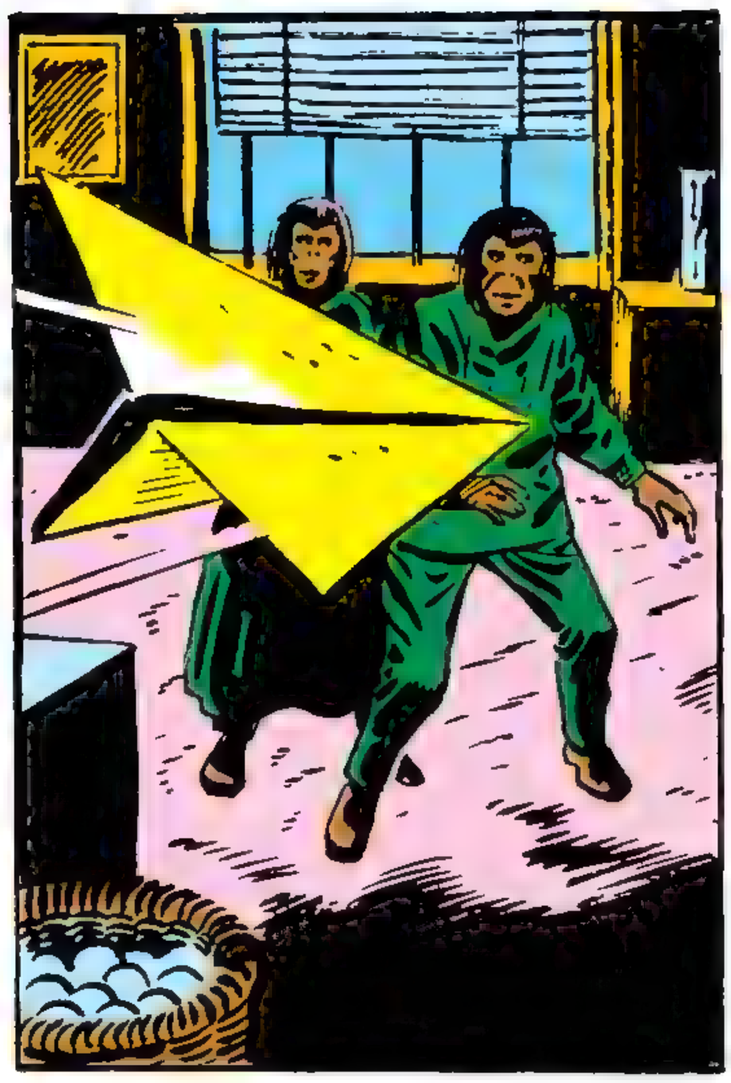
AND I SUPPOSE THIS "JEFFERSON PUBLIC SCHOOL" IS BACK ON THAT PLANET HE CLAIMS TO COME FROM...
I CONCEDE HE MAY BE ABNORMALLY INTELLIGENT, ZIRA, BUT HE'S ALSO MAD.

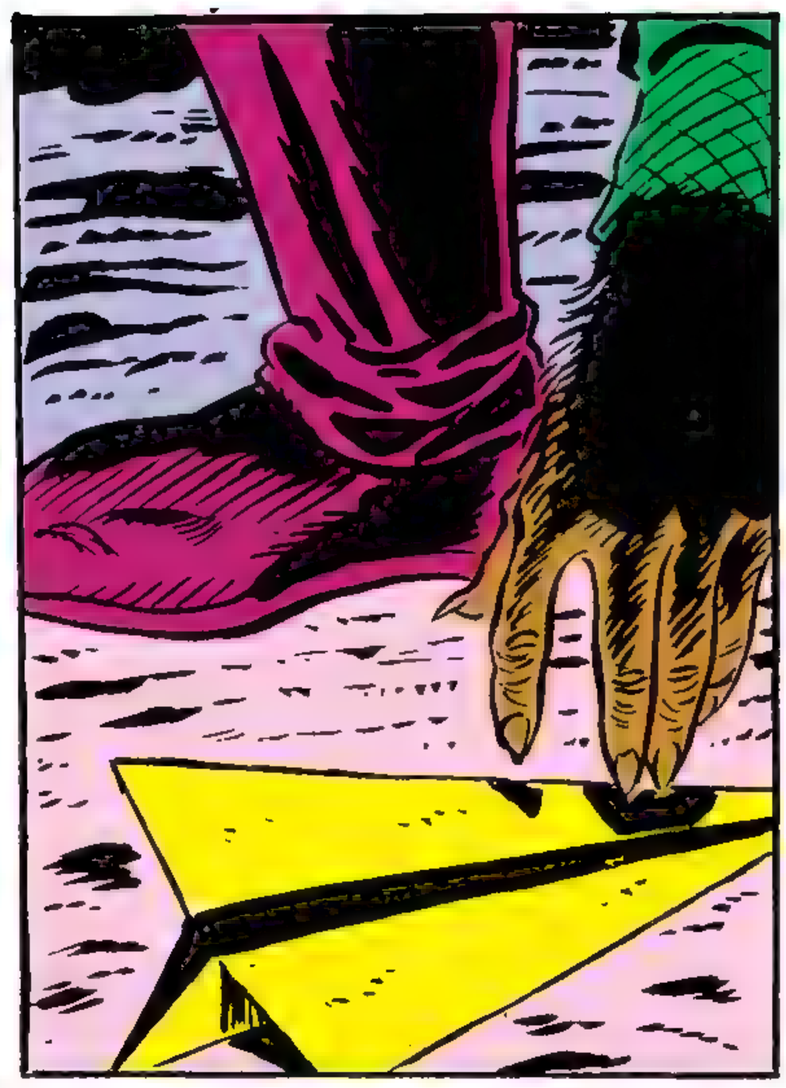
I'M BEGINNING TO THINK HE'S A MARVELOUS JUDGE OF CHARACTER, CORNELIUS.
AND YOU'RE A FOOL!

NOW JUST A MINUTE--
OH, CORNELIUS, BE QUIET.
QUIET? YOU LISTEN TO THIS... THIS HUMAN WHO NOT ONLY CLAIMS TO BE INTELLIGENT, BUT WHO CLAIMS THERE WERE TWO OTHERS AS INTELLIGENT AS HIM-- AND THAT THEY ALL JUST FELL OUT OF THE SKY ...AND THEN YOU TELL ME TO BE--


CORNELIUS-- HE'S WRITING SOMETHING ELSE.
IT SAYS, "NOT FELL-- FLEW!"

FLIGHT IS A SCIENTIFIC IMPOSSIBILITY.
YES-- AND EVEN IF IT WEREN'T-- WHY FLY? WHERE WOULD IT GET YOU--?

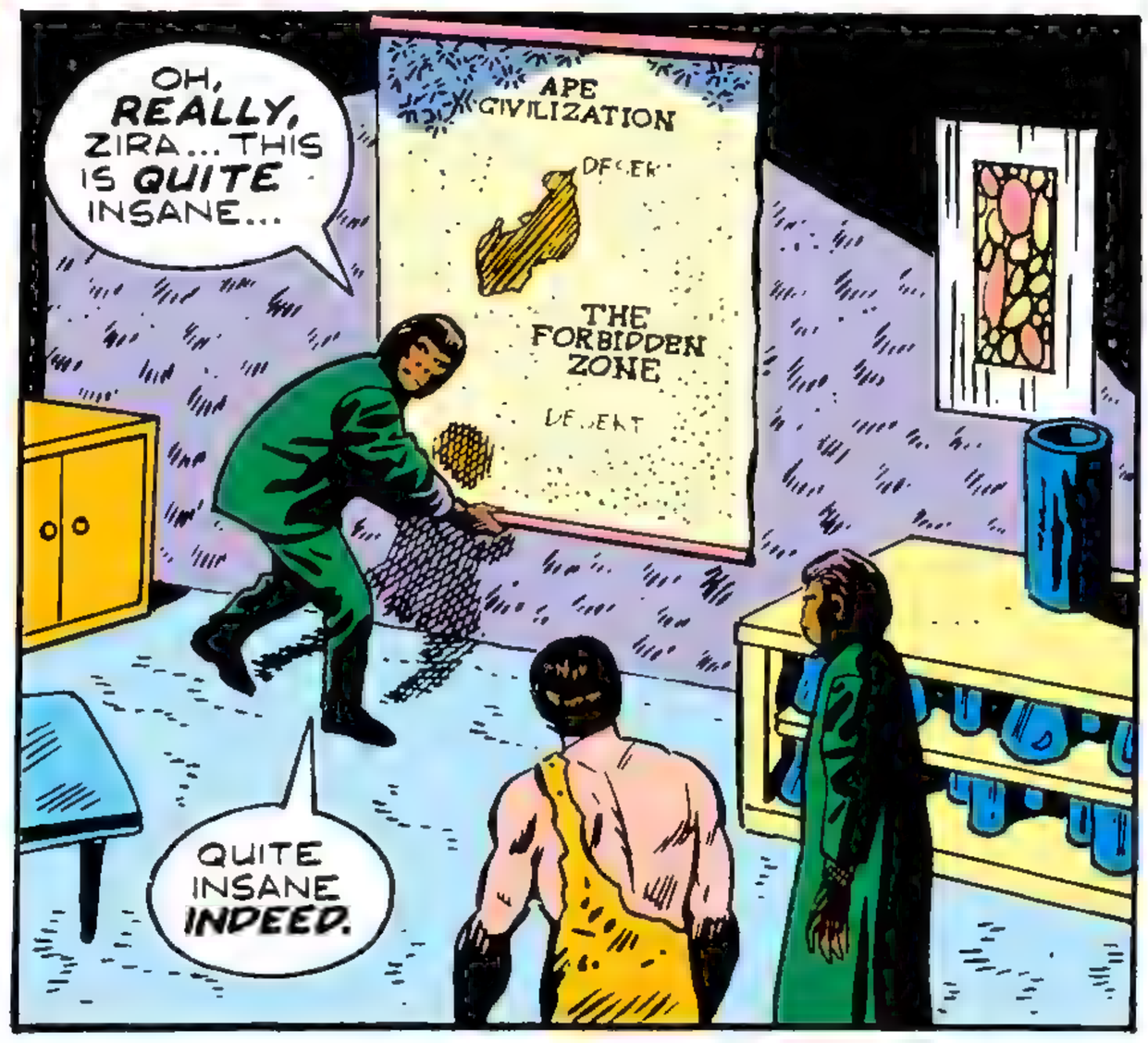


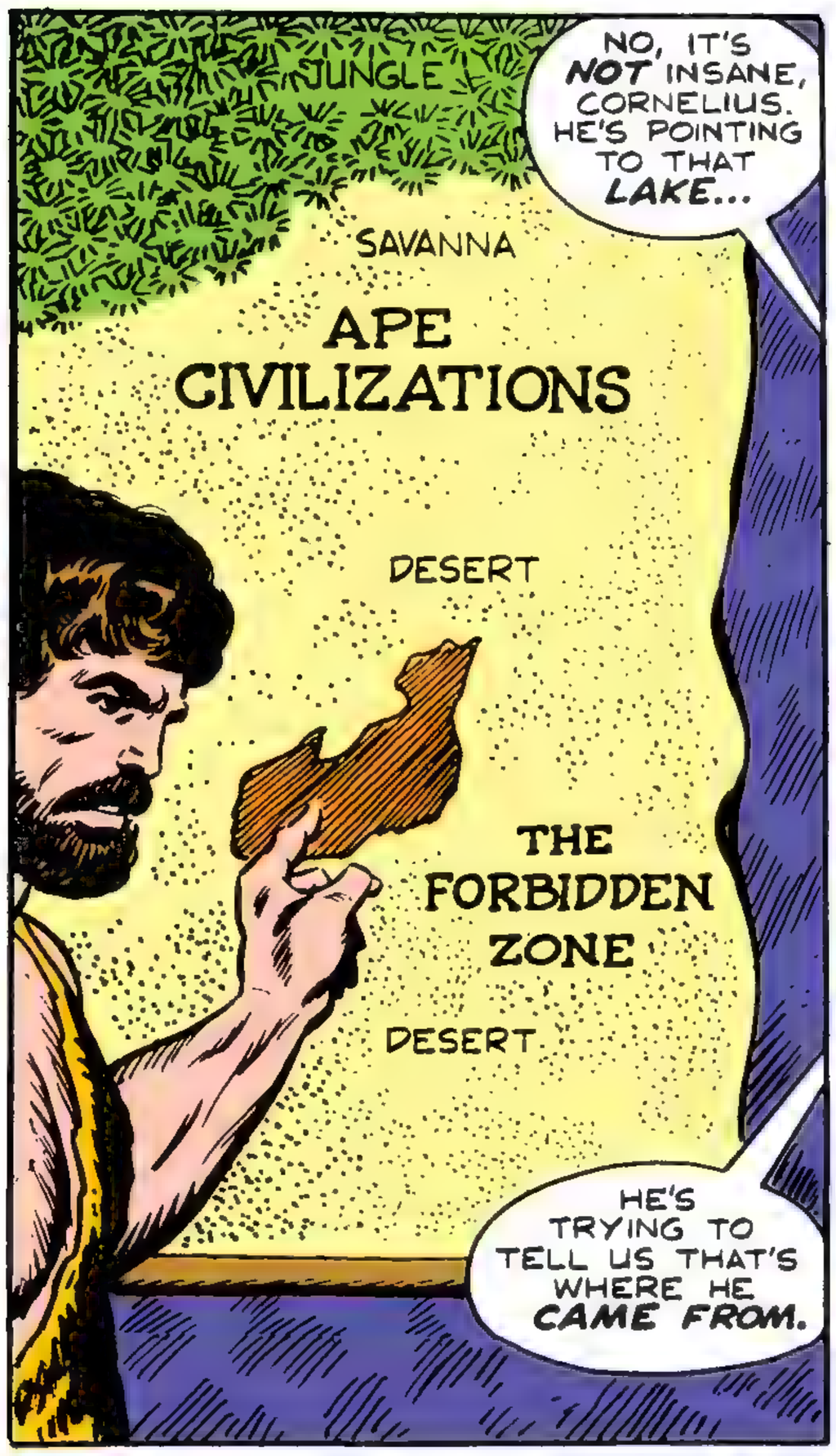


HERE!
HERE?

YES-- HERE. HE'S TRYING TO DEMONSTRATE TO US THAT FLIGHT GOT HIM HERE, CORNELIUS! AND HE'S DONE IT MOST INGENIOUSLY, DON'T YOU THINK?
WELL, NOW ZIRA, I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD JUMP TO--

HUSH, CORNELIUS-- AND PULL DOWN THE MAP.
I THINK HE WANTS TO SHOW US WHERE HE AND HIS TWO COMPANIONS FELL TO OUR WORLD...
DO YOU HAVE MAPS?


OH, REALLY, ZIRA... THIS IS QUITE INSANE...
APE CIVILIZATION
THE FORBIDDEN ZONE
QUITE INSANE INDEED.


JUNGLE
SAVANNA
APE CIVILIZATIONS
DESERT
THE FORBIDDEN ZONE
DESERT
NO, IT'S NOT INSANE, CORNELIUS. HE'S POINTING TO THAT LAKE...
HE'S TRYING TO TELL US THAT'S WHERE HE CAME FROM.

OUT-OF-THE-QUESTION.

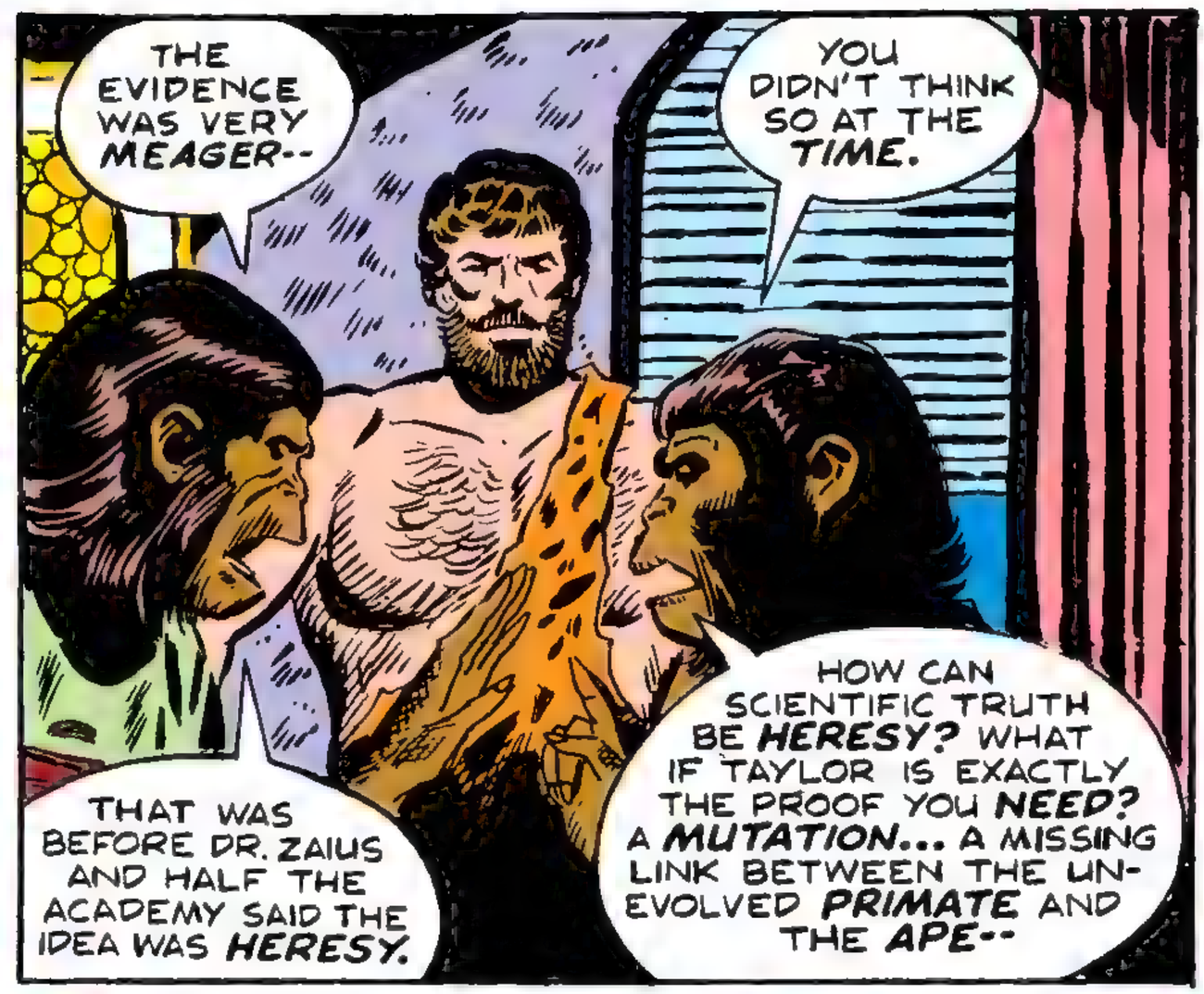
CORNELIUS, WHY DO YOU INSIST ON PROVOKING HIM?
IS IT PROVOKING HIM TO SIMPLY STATE--

--THAT NO CREATURE CAN SURVIVE IN THAT PART OF THE FORBIDDEN ZONE--? I'VE BEEN THERE, ZIRA--I'VE SEEN IT.
BELIEVE ME, NOTHING COMES FROM THERE.
APE CIVILIZAT
DESERT
THEN HOW DO YOU ACCOUNT FOR TAYLOR?

I DON'T. AND I'M NOT GOING TO TRY.
BUT WHAT ABOUT YOUR THEORY--? THE EXIS-TENCE OF SOMEONE LIKE TAYLOR MIGHT PROVE IT.

ZIRA, ARE YOU TRYING TO GET MY HEAD CUT OFF? WATCH WHAT YOU SAY--!
DON'T BE FOOLISH. IF IT'S TRUE, THEY'LL HAVE TO ACCEPT IT.
NO, THEY WON'T--

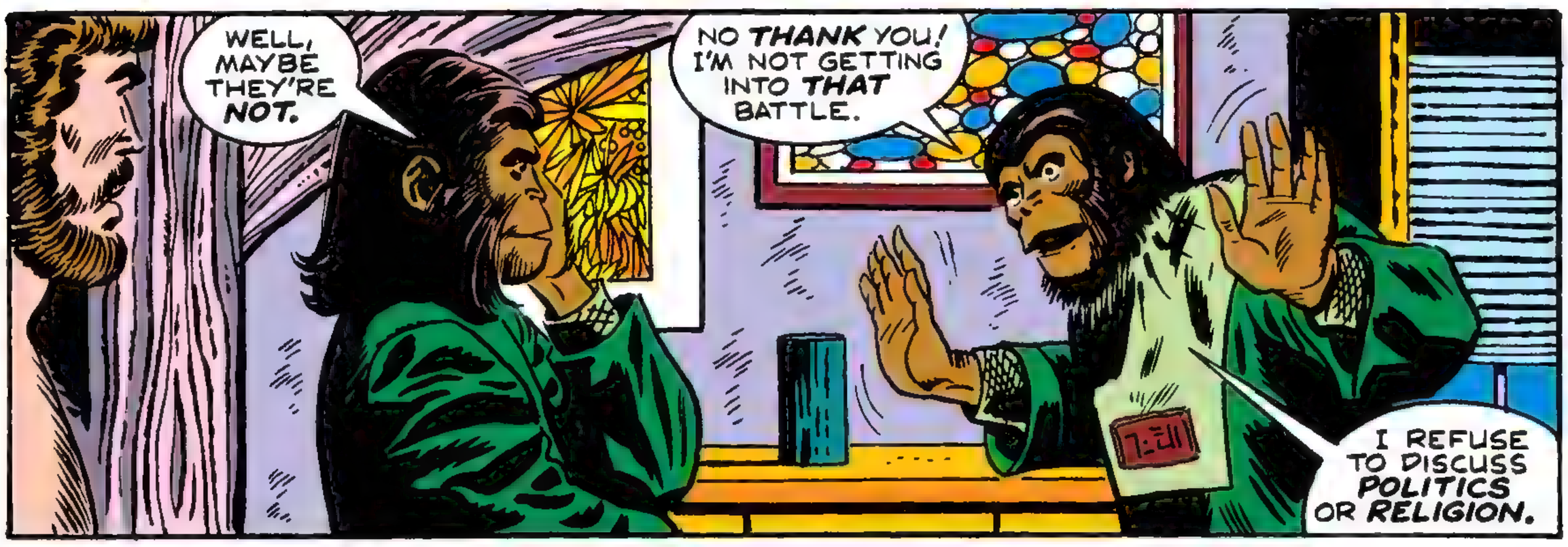
TAYLOR, CORNELIUS HAS DEVELOPED A BRILLIANT HYPOTHESIS--
IT'S PROBABLY WRONG!
--THAT THE APE EVOLVED FROM A LOWER ORDER OF PRIMATE, POSSIBLY MAN. IN HIS TRIP TO THE FORBIDDEN ZONE HE DISCOVERED TRACES OF A CULTURE OLDER THAN RECORDED TIME--


THE EVIDENCE WAS VERY MEAGER--
YOU DIDN'T THINK SO AT THE TIME.
THAT WAS BEFORE DR. ZAIUS AND HALF THE ACADEMY SAID THE IDEA WAS HERESY.
HOW CAN SCIENTIFIC TRUTH BE HERESY? WHAT IF TAYLOR IS EXACTLY THE PROOF YOU NEED? A MUTATION... A MISSING LINK BETWEEN THE UN-EVOLVED PRIMATE AND THE APE--

HE'S TOUCHY, ISN'T HE?
BAMP!

OH, THERE GOES WITH HIS SCRIBBLING AGAIN.
IF HE'S SO SMART, WHY DOESN'T HE JUST TALK?

IT SAYS: BECAUSE ONE OF YOU STINKING APES SHOT ME IN THE THROAT-- AND I AM NOT A MISSING LINK!"
OF COURSE HE ISN'T-- BECAUSE IF HE WERE MISSING LINK, THE SACRED SCROLLS WOULDN'T BE WORTH THE PARCHMENT THEY'RE WRITTEN ON.


WELL, MAYBE THEY'RE NOT.
NO THANK YOU! I'M NOT GETTING INTO THAT BATTLE.
I REFUSE TO DISCUSS POLITICS OR RELIGION.

OH, CORNELIUS, SHOW SOME STRENGTH FOR A CHANGE!
ZIRA, LISTEN TO ME--WE'VE GOT A FINE FUTURE AHEAD OF US. MARRIAGE. STIMULATING CAREERS. I'M EVEN UP FOR A RAISE--

RAP RAP RAP

DR. ZAIUS--
DID YOU FORGET OUR APPOINTMENT, CORNELIUS?
OH--OH NO, SIR. I... I WAS JUST ASSEMBLING MY NOTES...

YOU KNOW DR. MAXIMUS, OUR COMMISSIONER FOR ANIMAL AFFAIRS?
CERTAINLY, SIR. IT'S A PLEASURE TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
I'LL JUST GET MY NOTES...

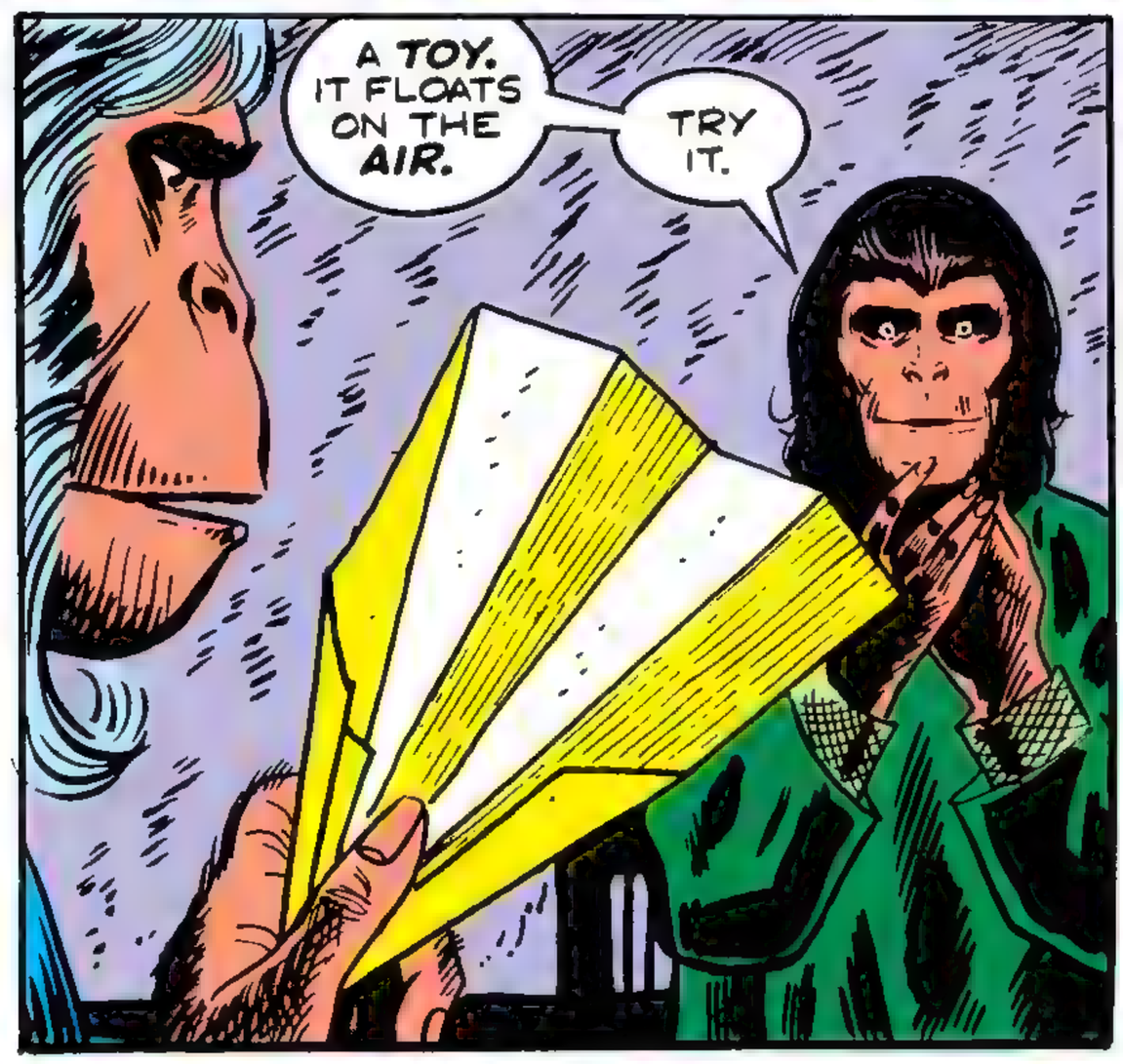
WHAT IS THAT?
A MAN, DR. MAXIMUS.
I KNOW IT'S A MAN. AND YOU KNOW THE RULES. NO ANIMALS OUTSIDE THE COMPOUND-- AND MOST CERTAINLY NOT WITHOUT A LEASH.

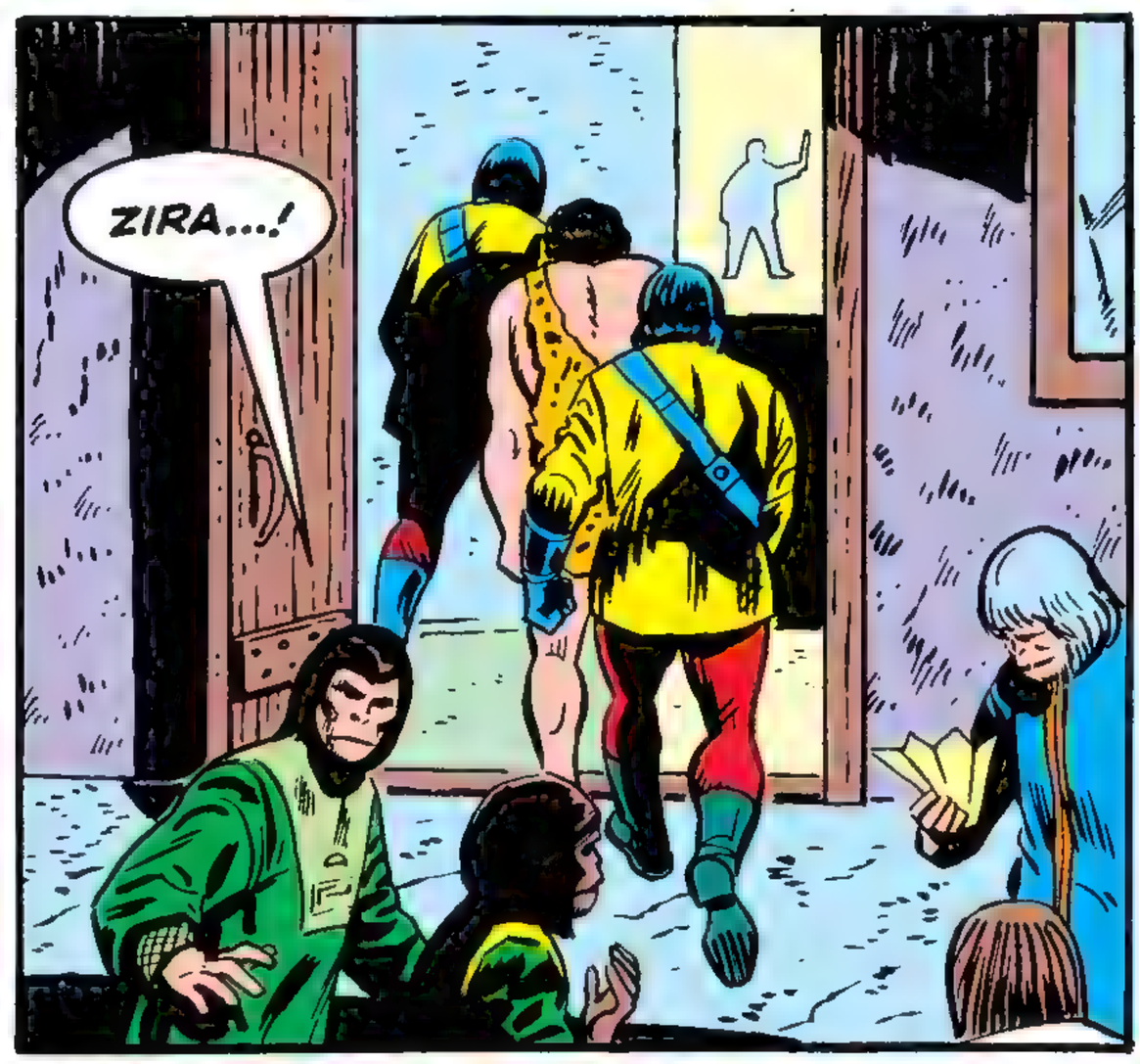
YES, SIR. BUT THIS... CREATURE IS A SPECIAL CASE.
WHY SPECIAL?
WE'RE CONDUCTING A NEW EXPERIMENT.
WOULDN'T IT BE MORE PROPERLY CONDUCTED IN YOUR OFFICE.

YES, SIR.
GUARDS!

RETURN THIS BEAST TO THE COMPOUND.

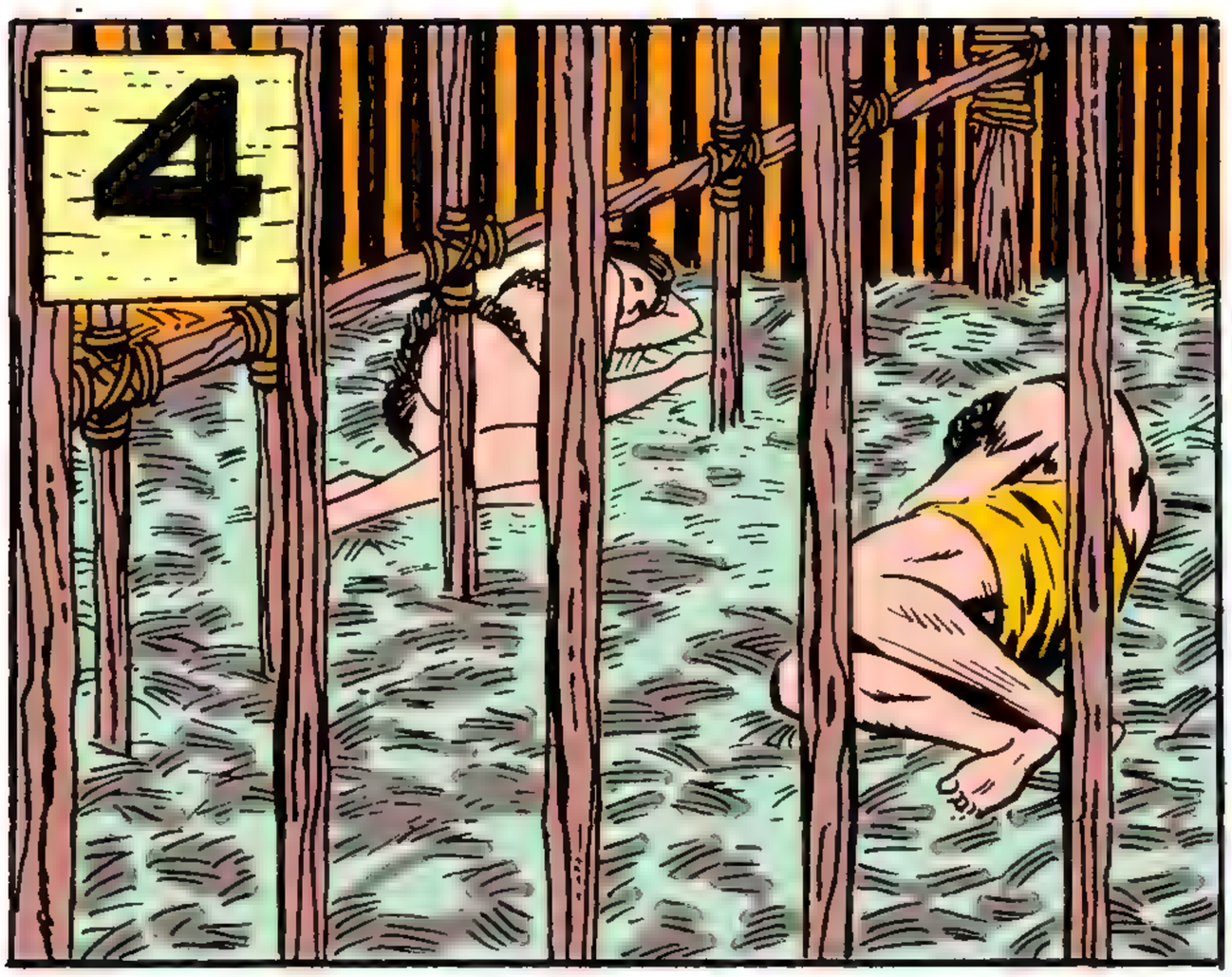
WHAT'S THIS?


A TOY. IT FLOATS ON THE AIR.
TRY IT.


ZIRA....!

NONSENSE.

UTTER NONSENSE, MY DEAR.
GOOD DAY.


4

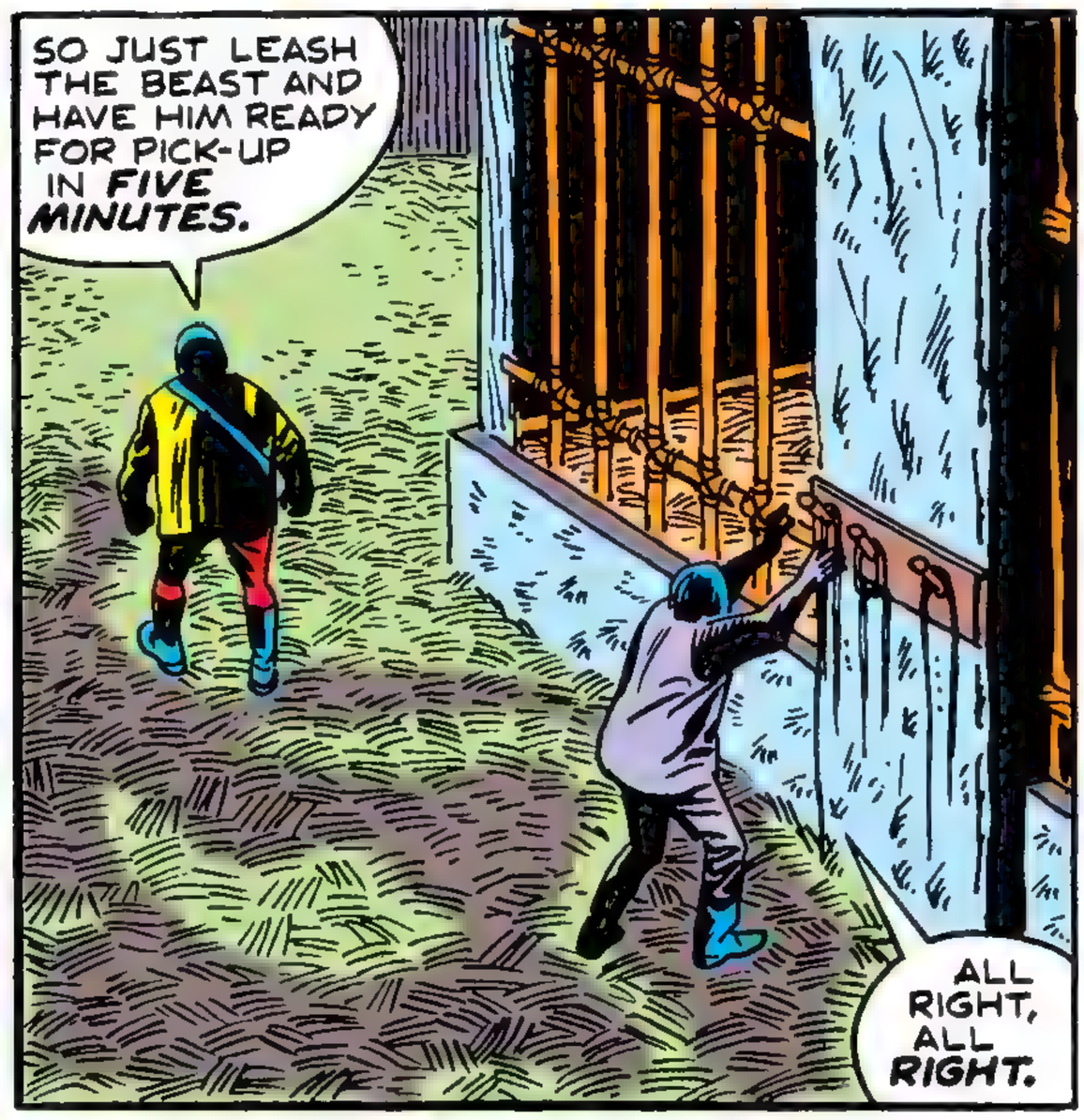
WHAT'S UP, LIEUTENANT?

WE'RE TAKING NUMBER FOUR OVER TO SURGERY IN FIVE MINUTES. HAVE HIM READY.

HOW COME? THE BEAST'S THROAT IS NEARLY HEALED.
IT'S NOT HIS THROAT THIS TIME...

THE VET WANTS TO GELD HIM.

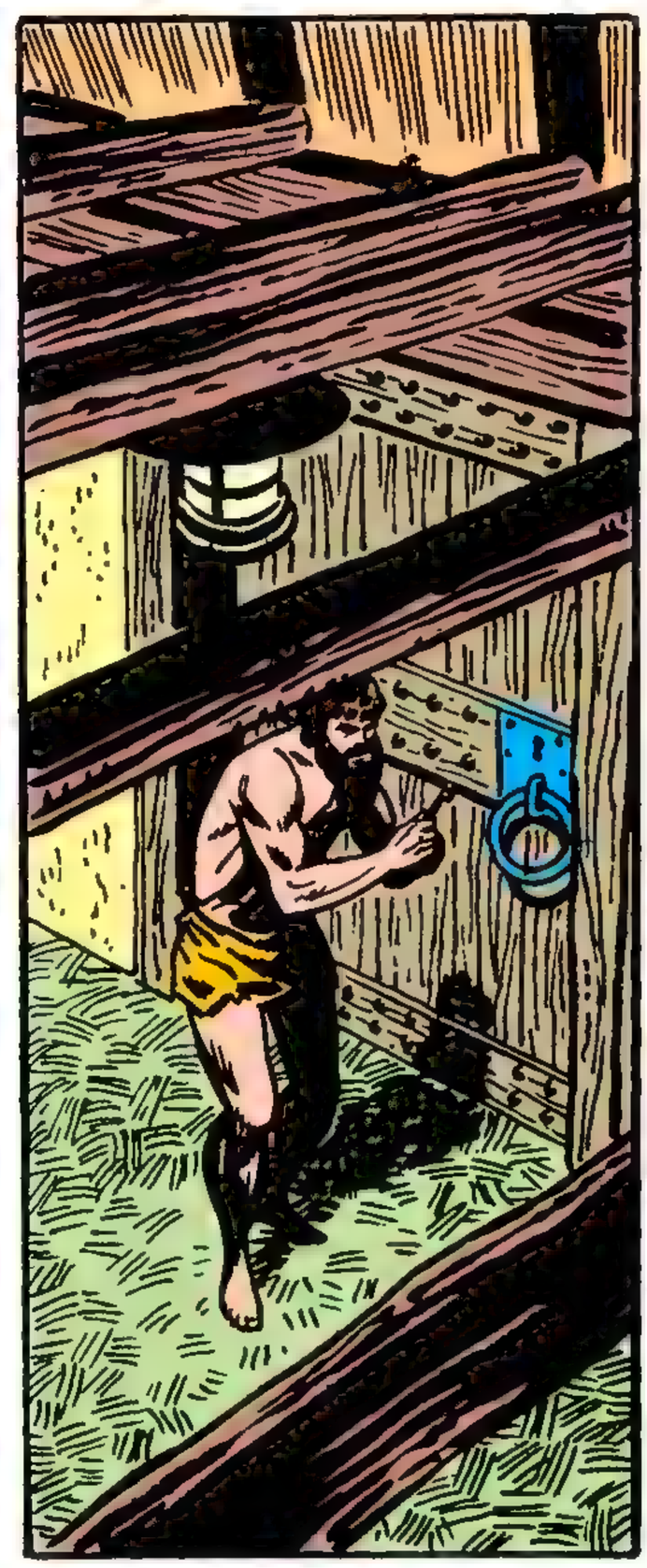
DR. ZIRA WON'T LIKE IT. SHE WANTS THAT PAIR TO MATE.
THESE ORDERS CAME FROM DR. ZAIUS HIMSELF. THERE'S NOTHING SHE CAN DO ABOUT IT.


SO JUST LEASH THE BEAST AND HAVE HIM READY FOR PICK-UP IN FIVE MINUTES.
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT.

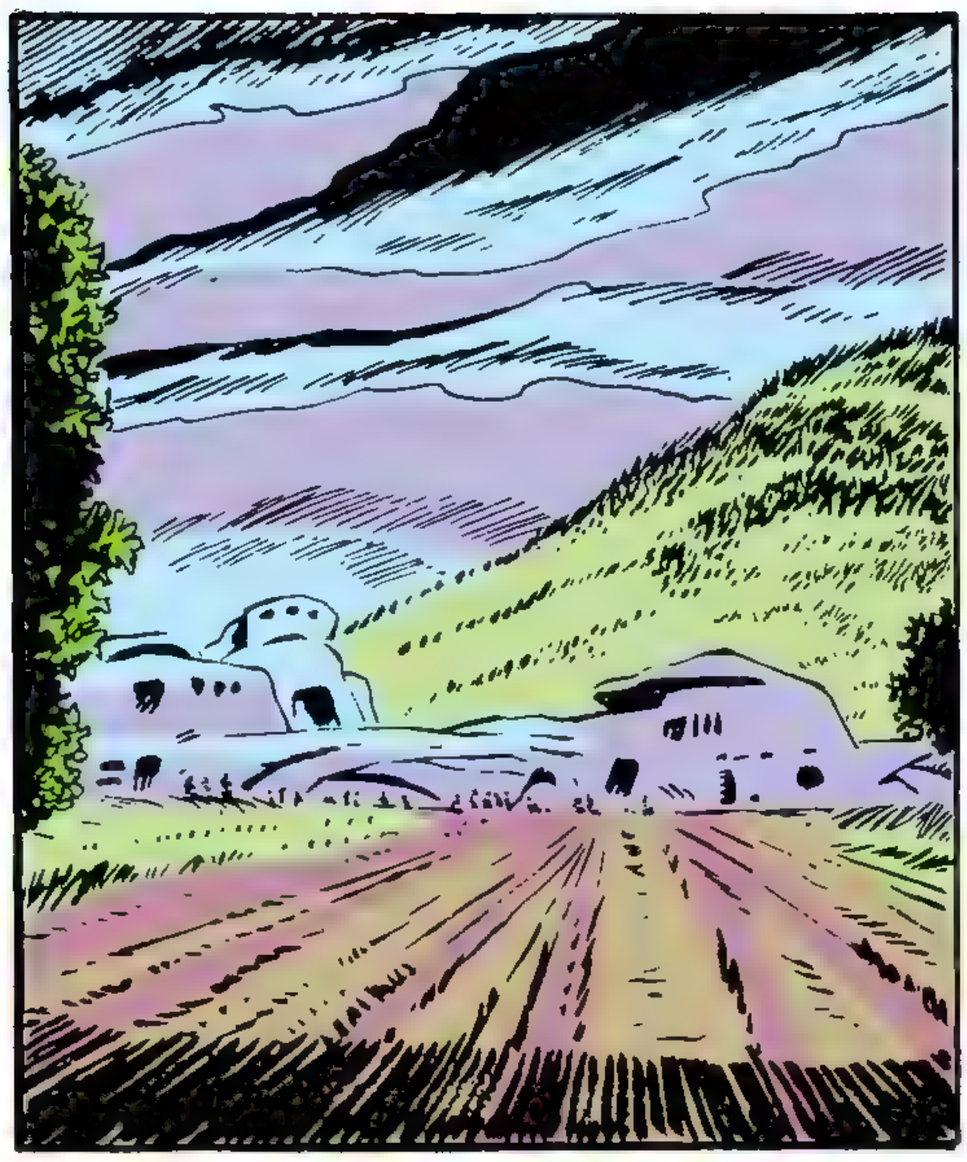
IF YOU ONLY KNEW, BRIGHT EYES, WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO DO TO YOU...

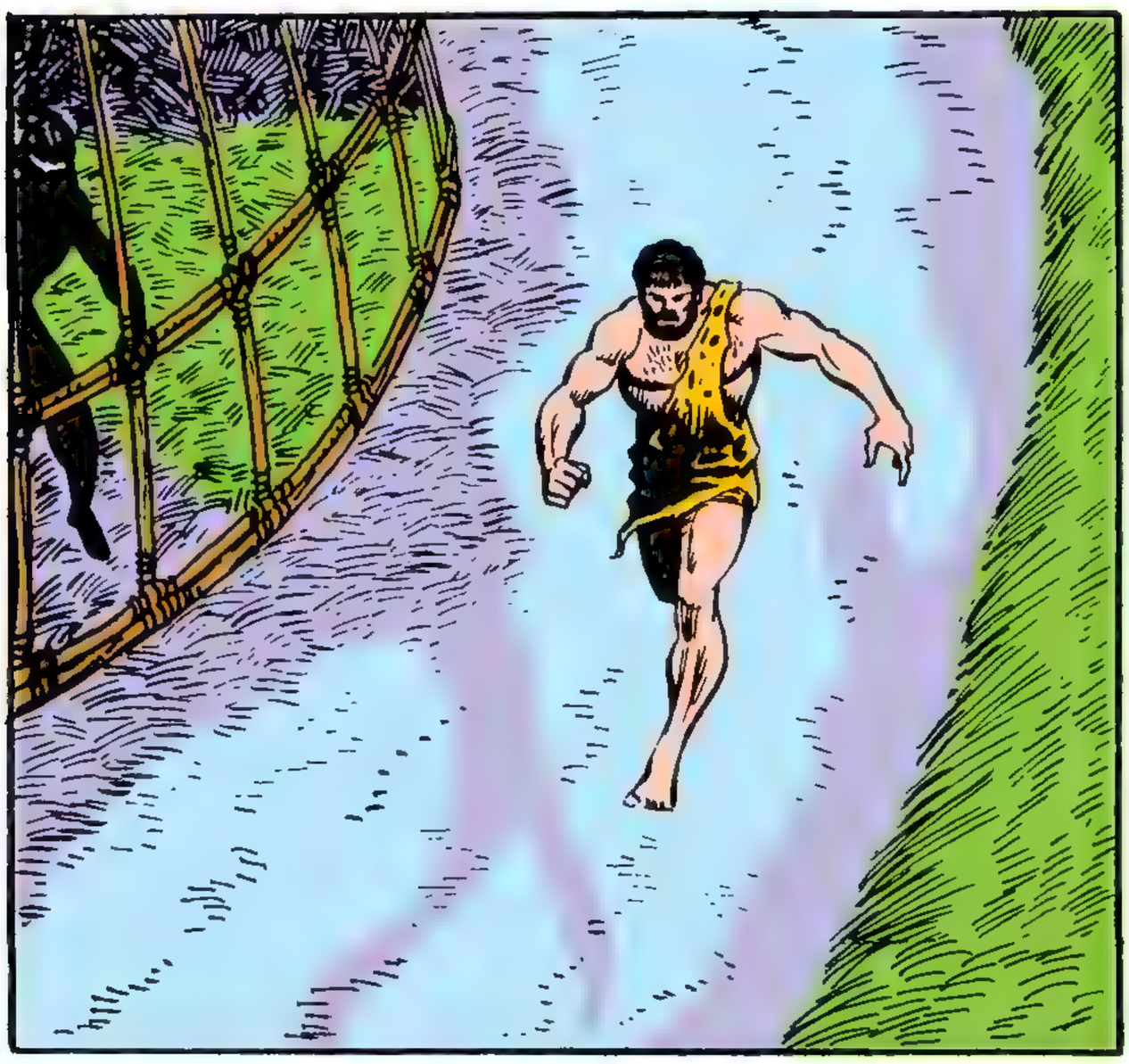
STAND STILL NOW... DON'T GIVE ME ANY TROUBLE...
JUST DON'T GIVE ME ANY--

SPAPP!
UHNN--!



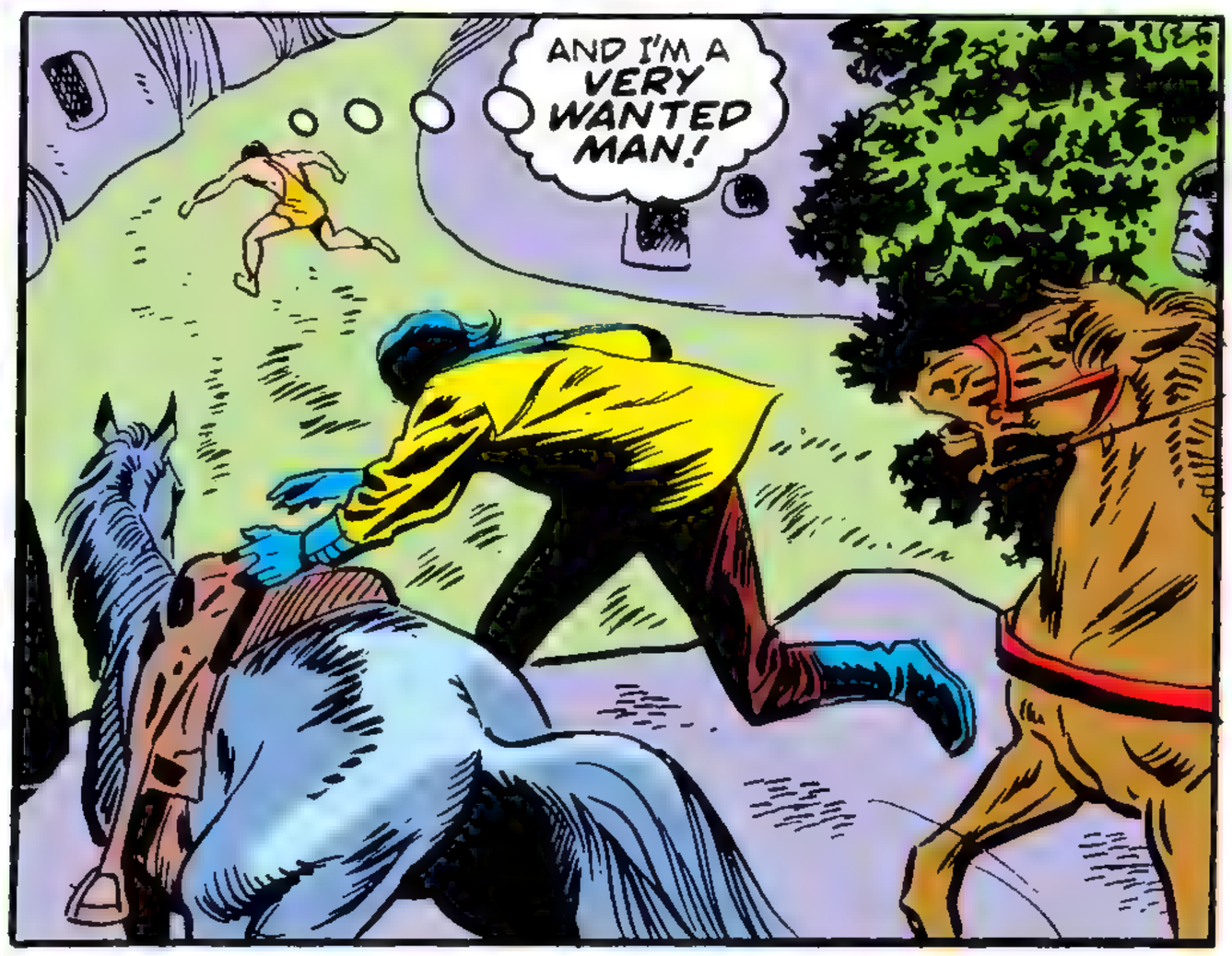
KLATCH!

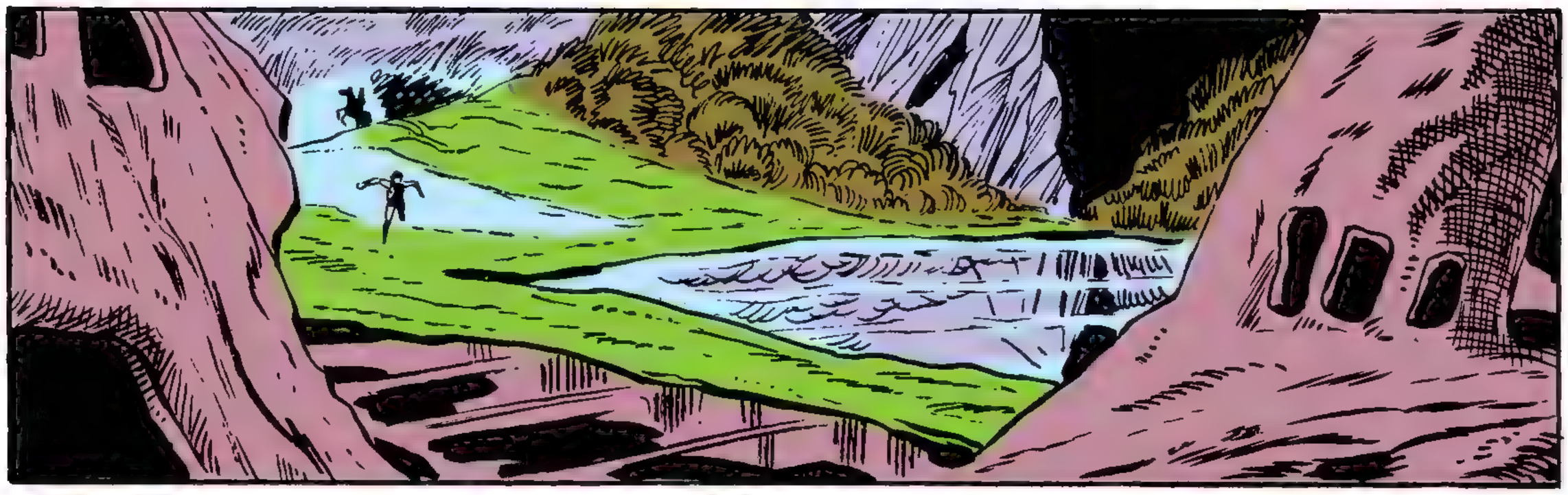




SHREEEEEEP
A WHISTLE--!

SHREEEEEEP
A POLICE WHISTLE--!


AND I'M A VERY WANTED MAN!

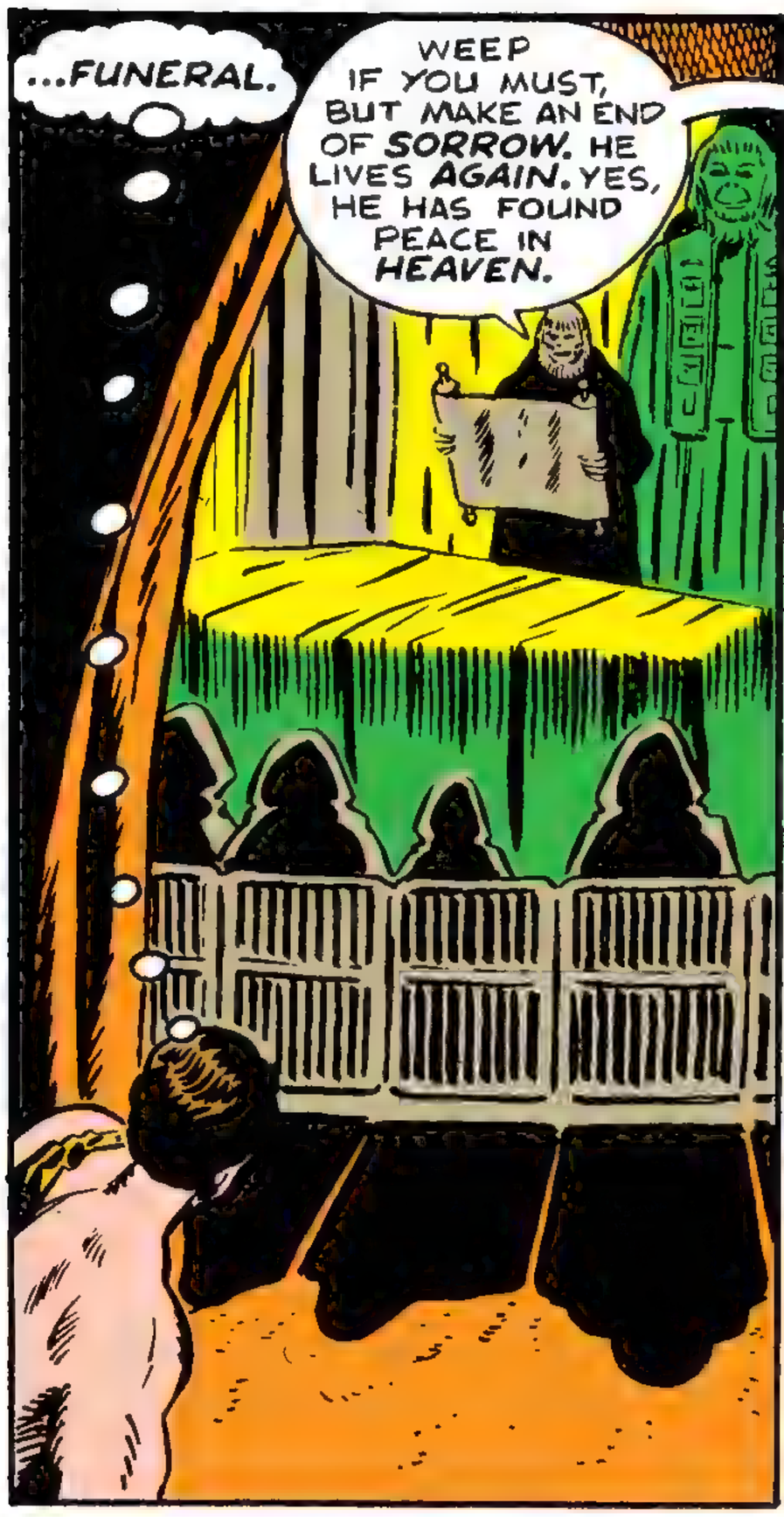


SHREEE-
EEEEP!

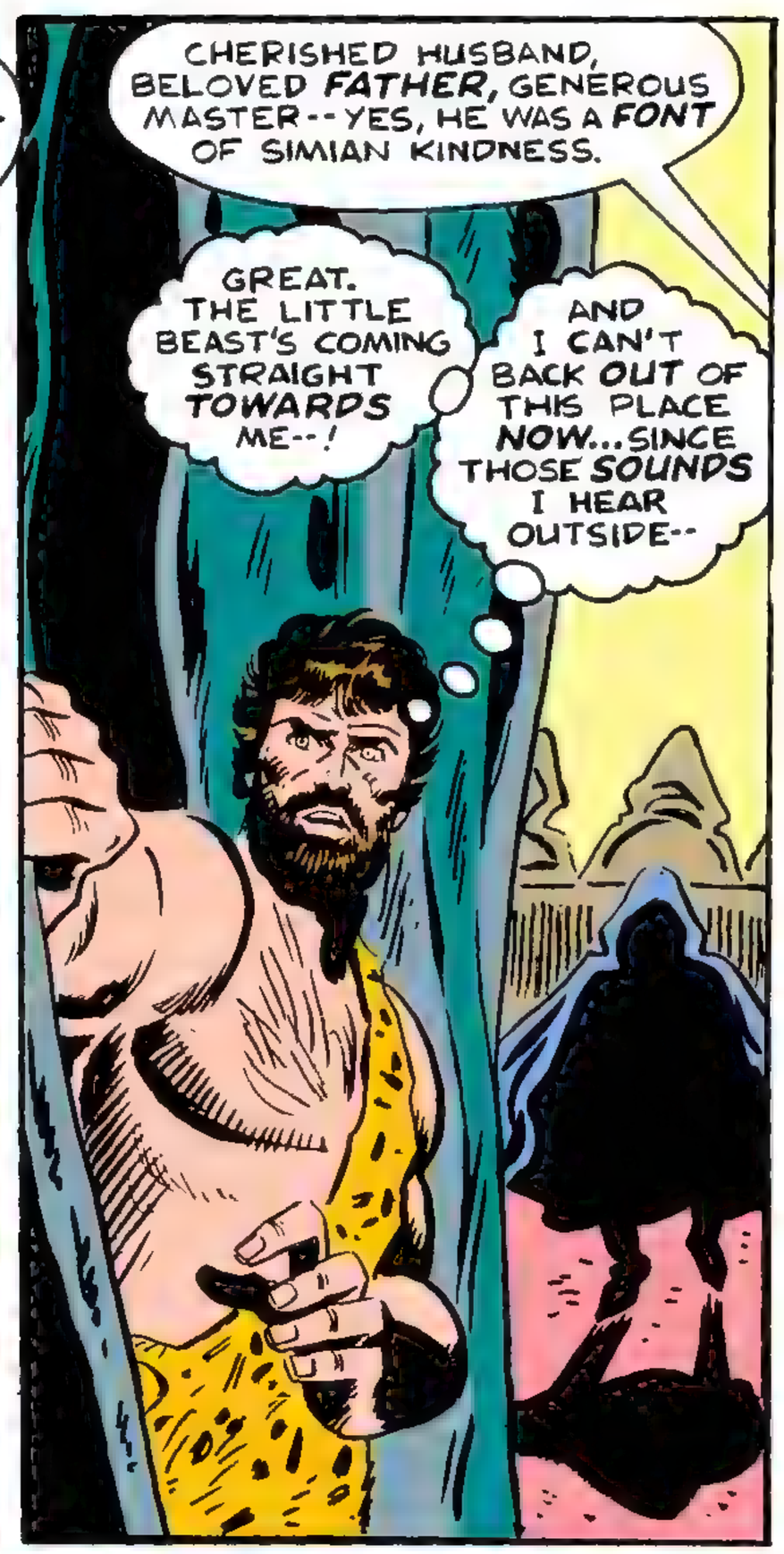
LOST THEM... I HOPE...

IS THAT... ORGAN MUSIC... COMING FROM THIS BUILDING...?

WELL, I'LL BE A MANGY MONKEY'S UNCLE--!
IT ...IT'S A...


...FUNERAL.
WEEP IF YOU MUST, BUT MAKE AN END OF SORROW. HE LIVES AGAIN. YES, HE HAS FOUND PEACE IN HEAVEN.

HE WAS A MODEL FOR US ALL, A GORILLA TO REMEMBER: HUNTER, WARRIOR, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH...
MAMA, I HAVE TO--
GO AHEAD, THEN--BUT HURRY UP.


CHERISHED HUSBAND, BELOVED FATHER, GENEROUS MASTER--YES, HE WAS A FONT OF SIMIAN KINDNESS.
GREAT. THE LITTLE BEAST'S COMING STRAIGHT TOWARDS ME--!
AND I CAN'T BACK OUT OF THIS PLACE NOW...SINCE THOSE SOUNDS I HEAR OUTSIDE--

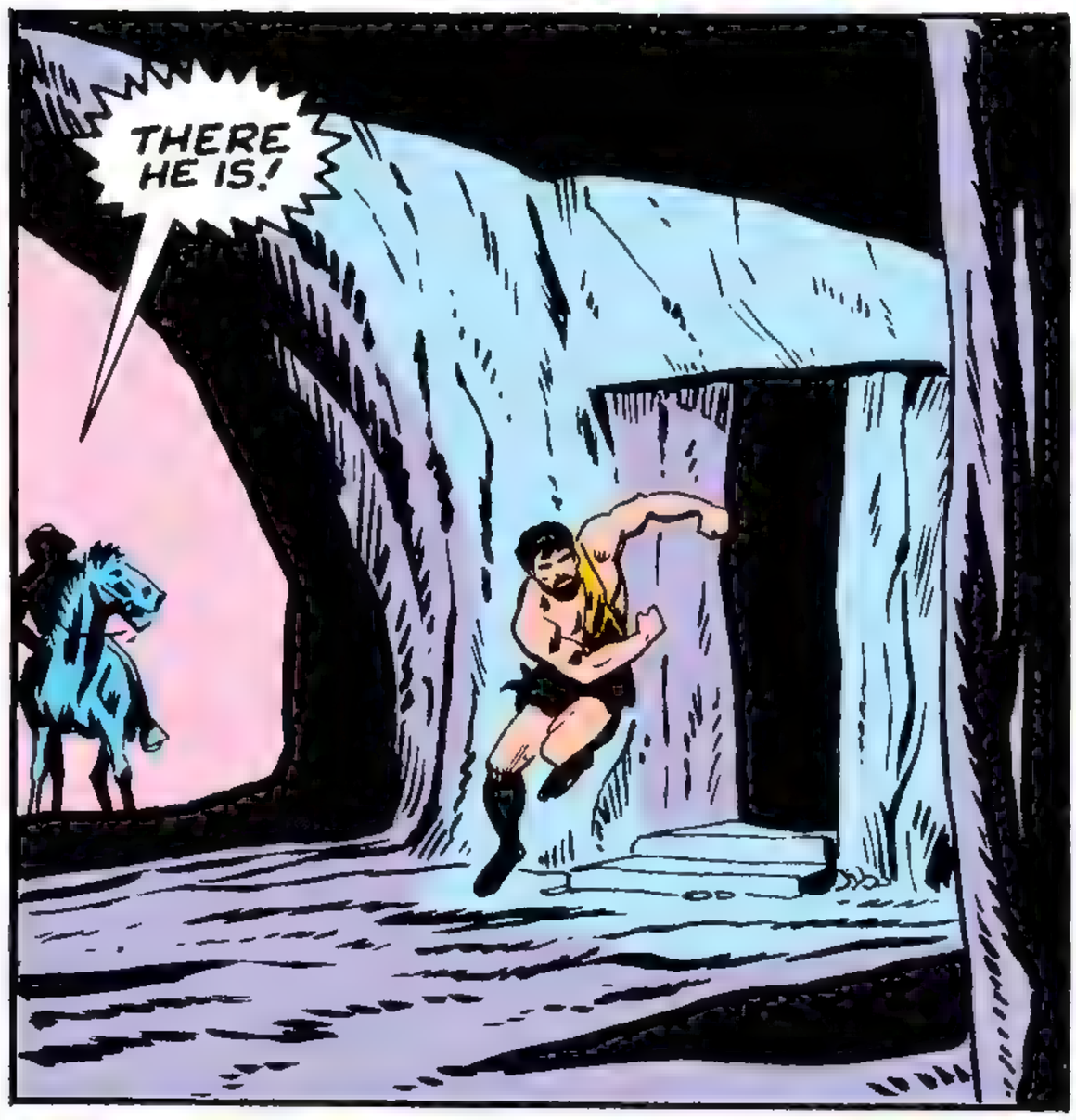
"--MUST BE THE GORILLA FUZZ."
HE COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN FAR.
RIGHT. LET'S WAIT HERE FOR A FEW MINUTES...

UH-OH... HERE IT COMES...
THE DEAR DEPARTED ONCE SAID TO ME--

LOOK--!

A MAN--!
IN HEAVEN'S NAME-- GET RID OF THAT CREATURE!!
OH MY GOD--!

USHERS-- HALT THE DESECRATION OF THIS CEREMONY AT ONCE--!
GET THAT ANIMAL OUT OF HERE!!

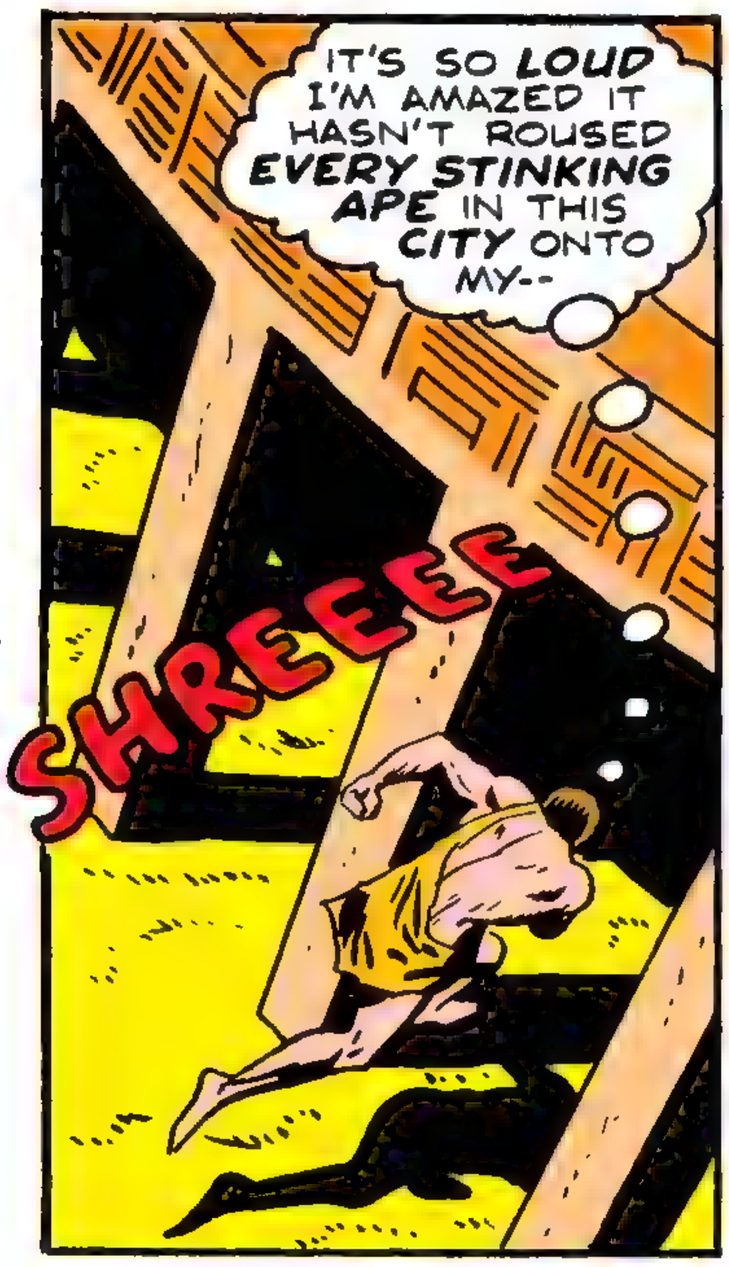

THERE HE IS!

STOP HIM--!

YOU SEE WHAT I SAW?
MUST'VE ESCAPED FROM THE ZOO.

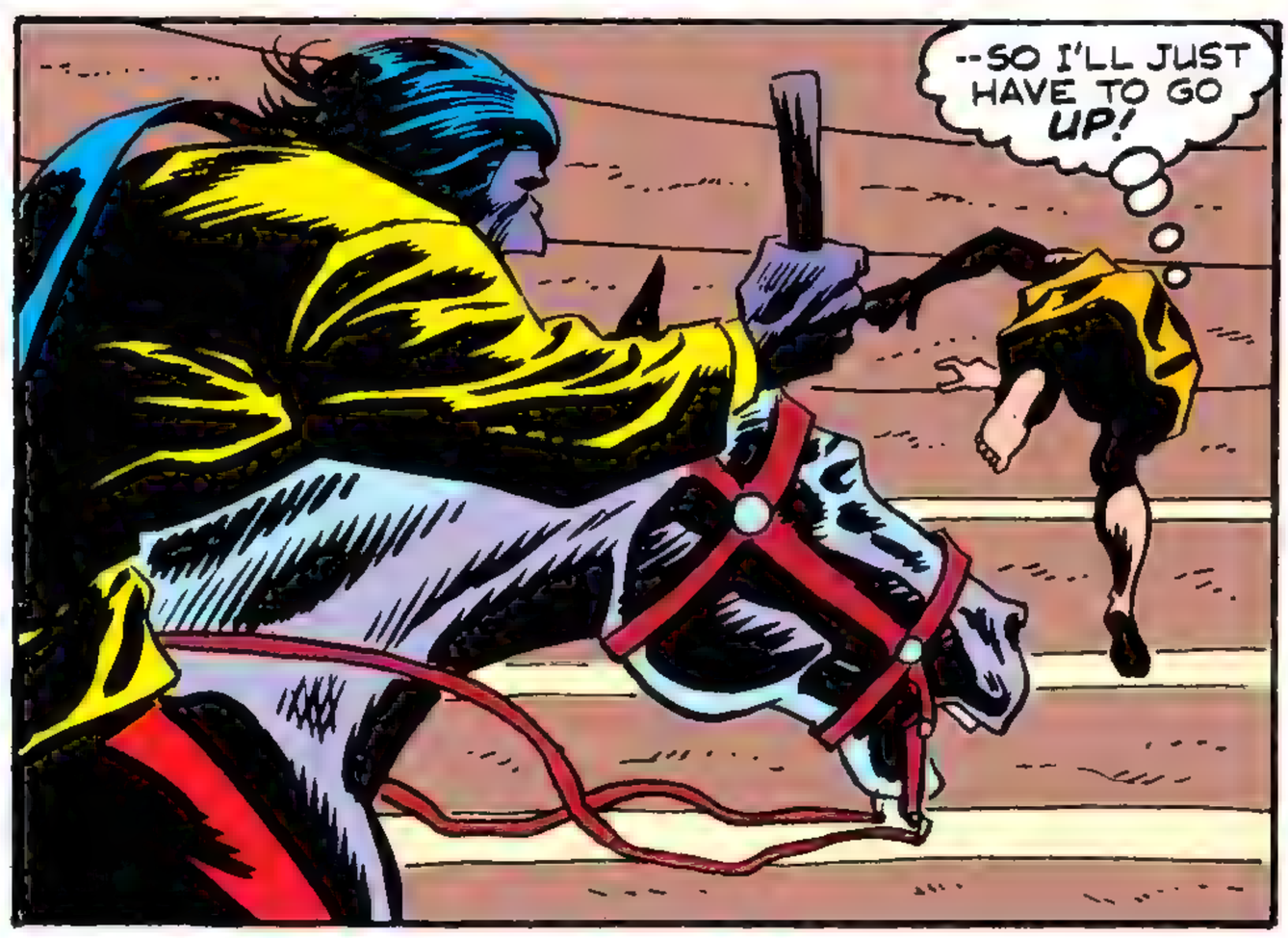
ANOTHER ONE-- AHEAD...

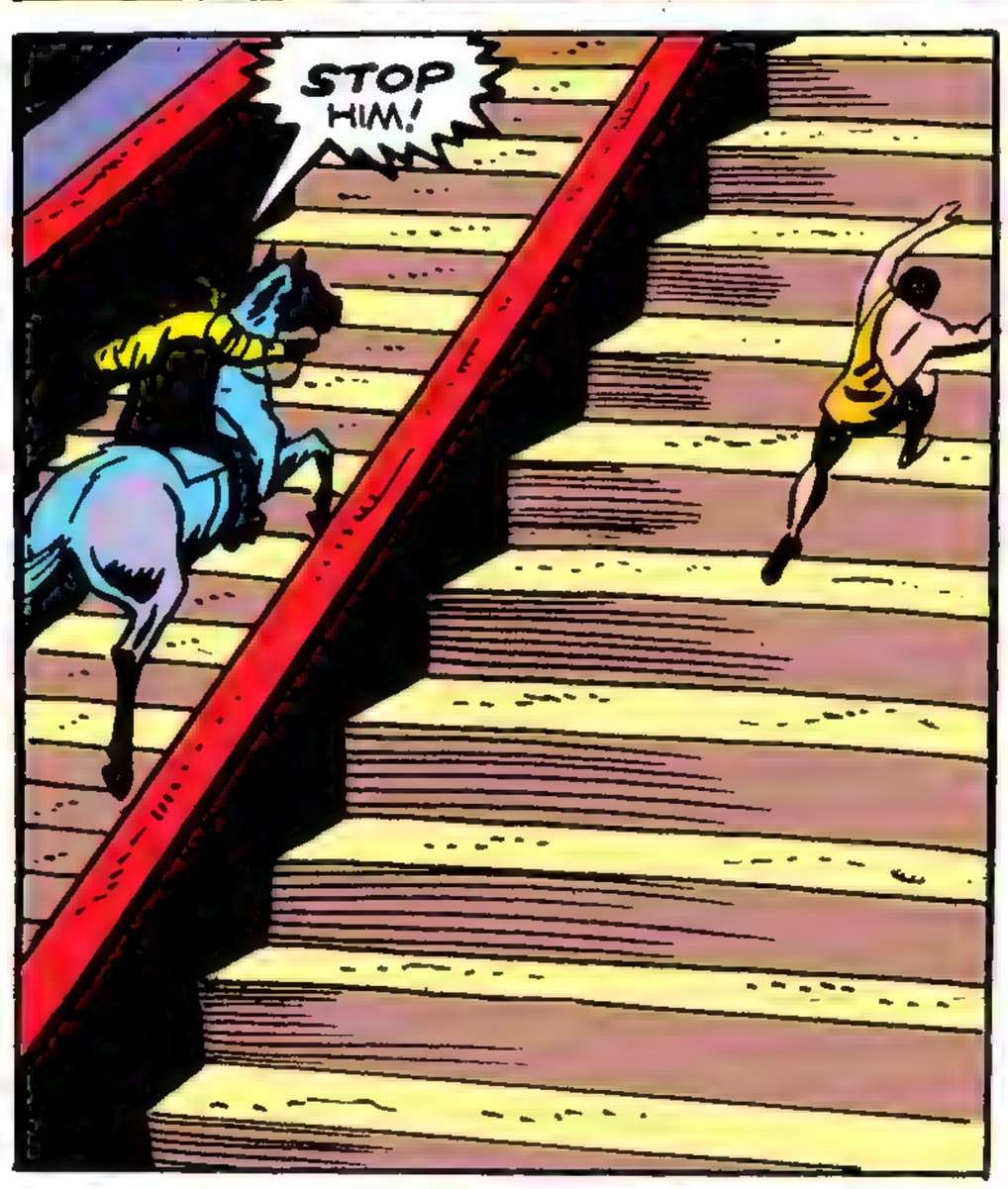
SHREE-EEEEP!
AND THIS ONE'S GOT A NET--!
USE YOUR NET, XIRINIUS!!
SWISSHHH
FLPP
YOU MISSED--!
STOP HIM--BEFORE HE GETS TO HIS--
--FEET!
SHREE-EEEP!
DAMN WHISTLE--!


IT'S SO LOUD I'M AMAZED IT HASN'T ROUSED EVERY STINKING APE IN THIS CITY ONTO MY--
SHREEEE

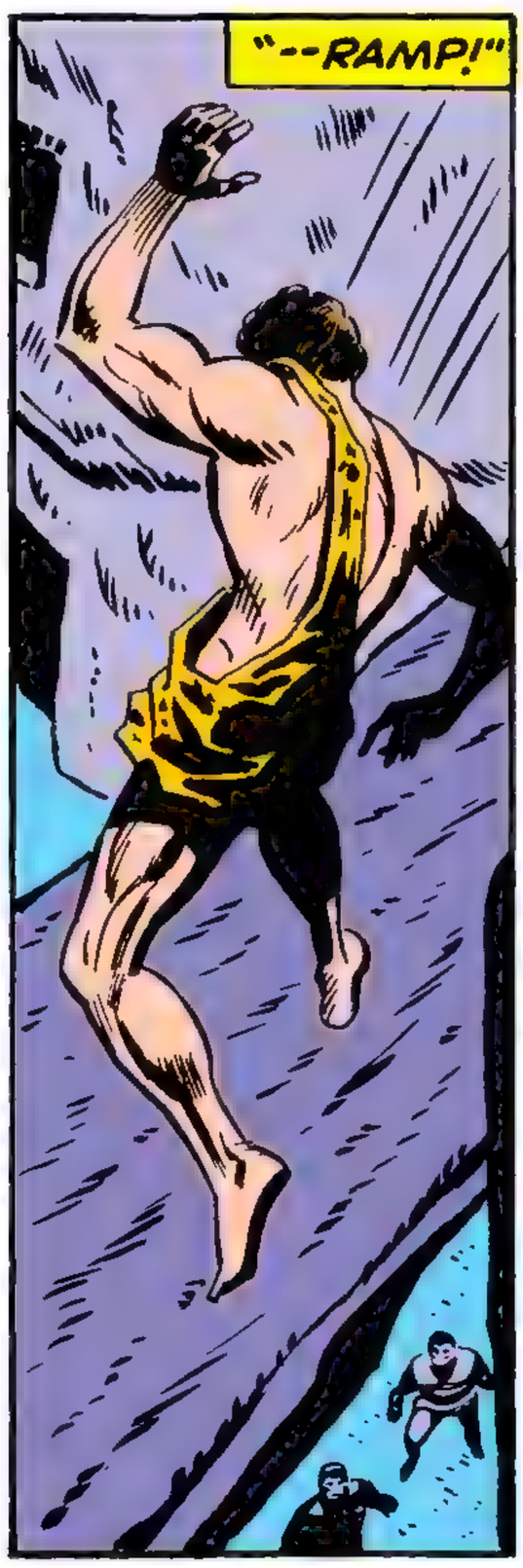
--TAIL.

CAN'T GO BACK--


--SO I'LL JUST HAVE TO GO UP!


STOP HIM!

STOP HIM BEFORE HE REACHES THE--

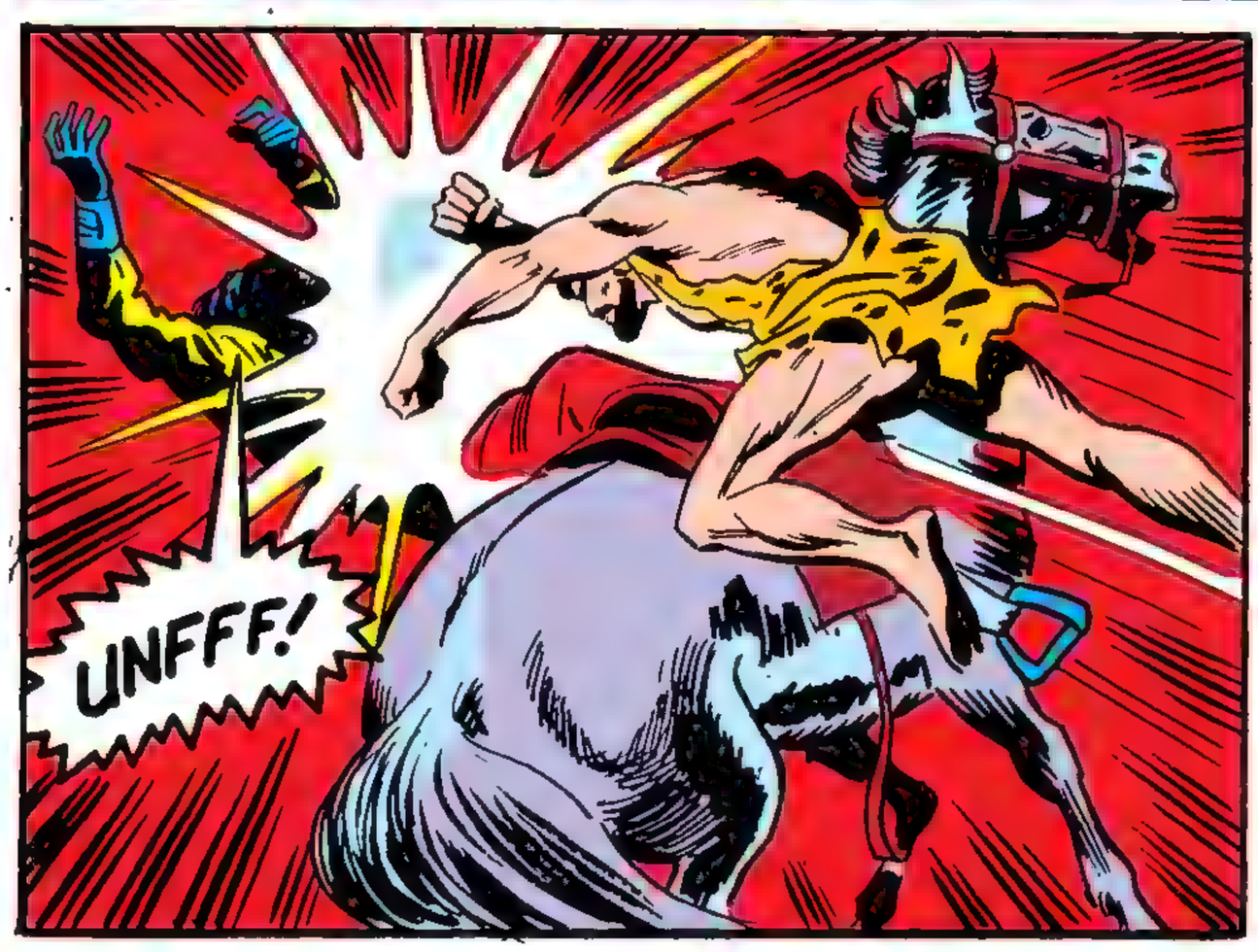

"--RAMP!"

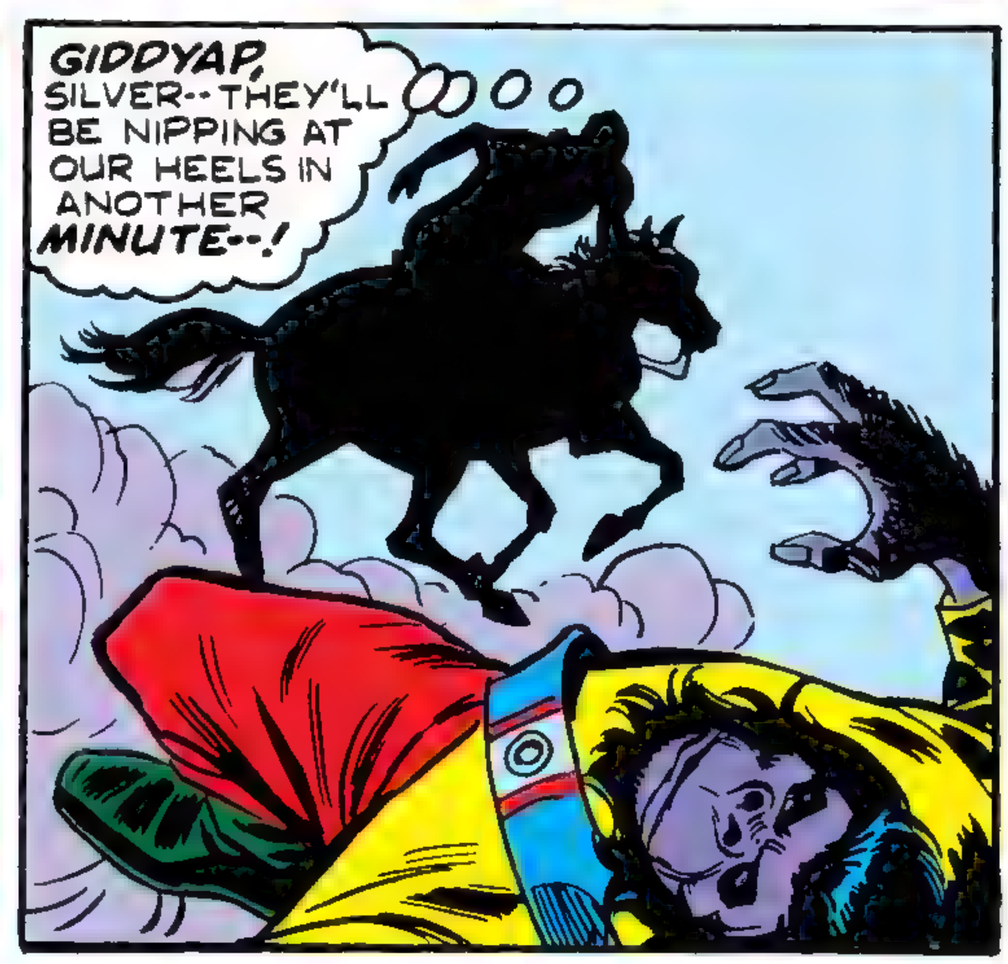
CLOSE, TAYLOR-- CLOSE.
WOULDN'T WANT TO TRY THAT AGAIN.

HE'S UP THERE--!
CUT HIM OFF WHEN HE TRIES TO GET DOWN!

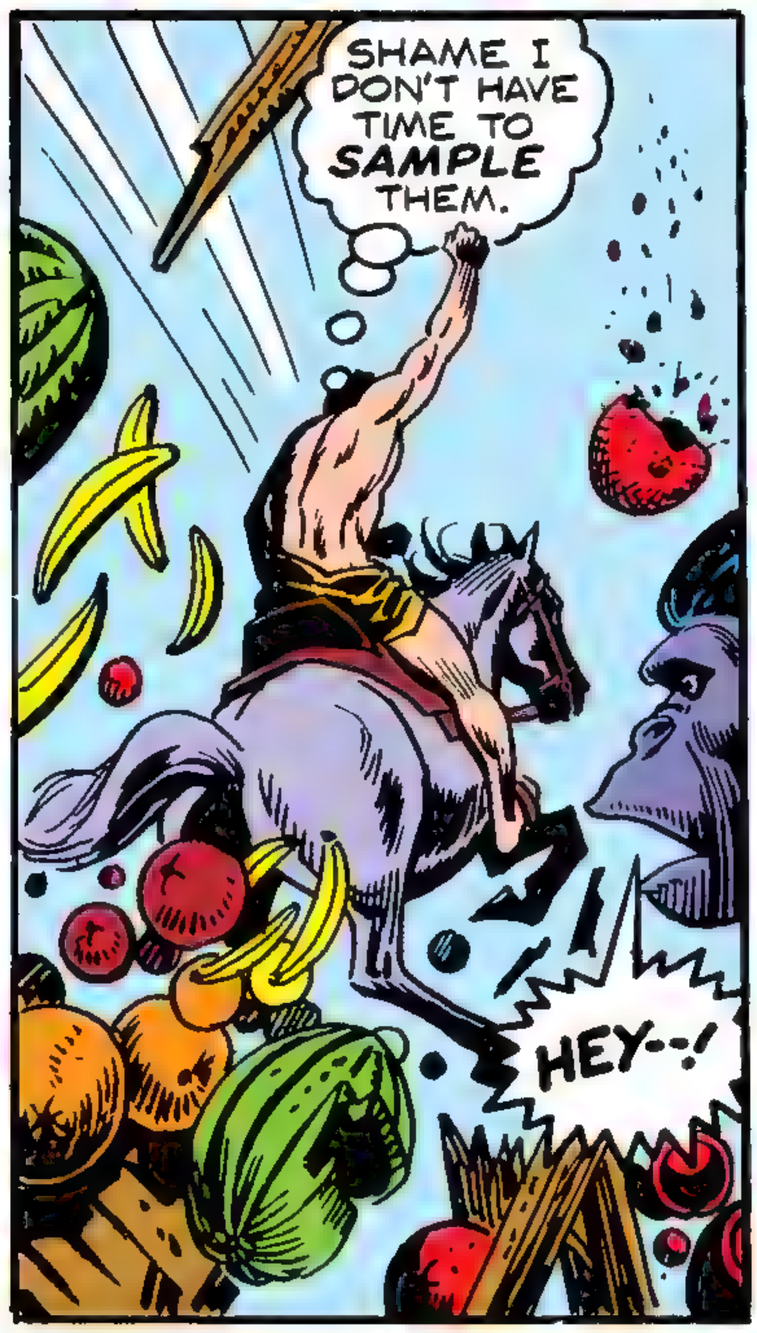
CAN'T STOP NOW--!
WE'VE GOT HIM!

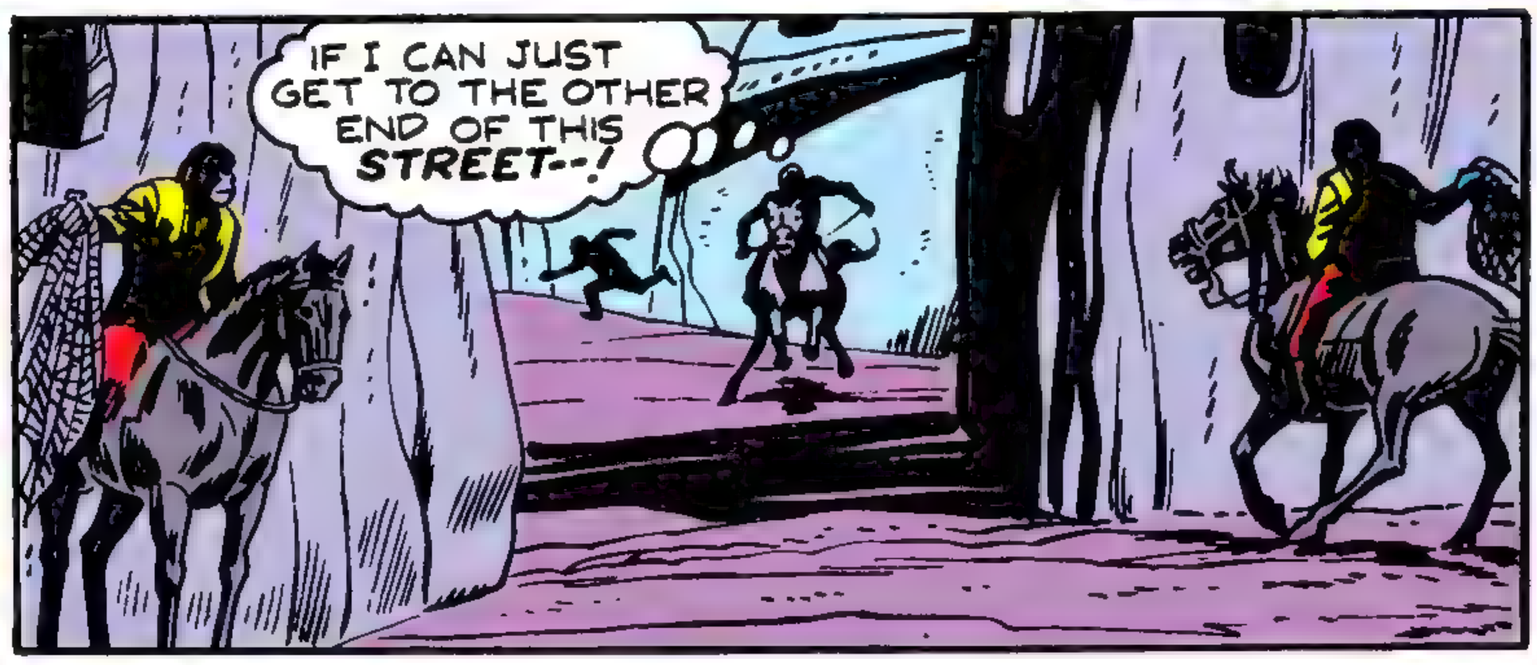
SO...


UNFFF!

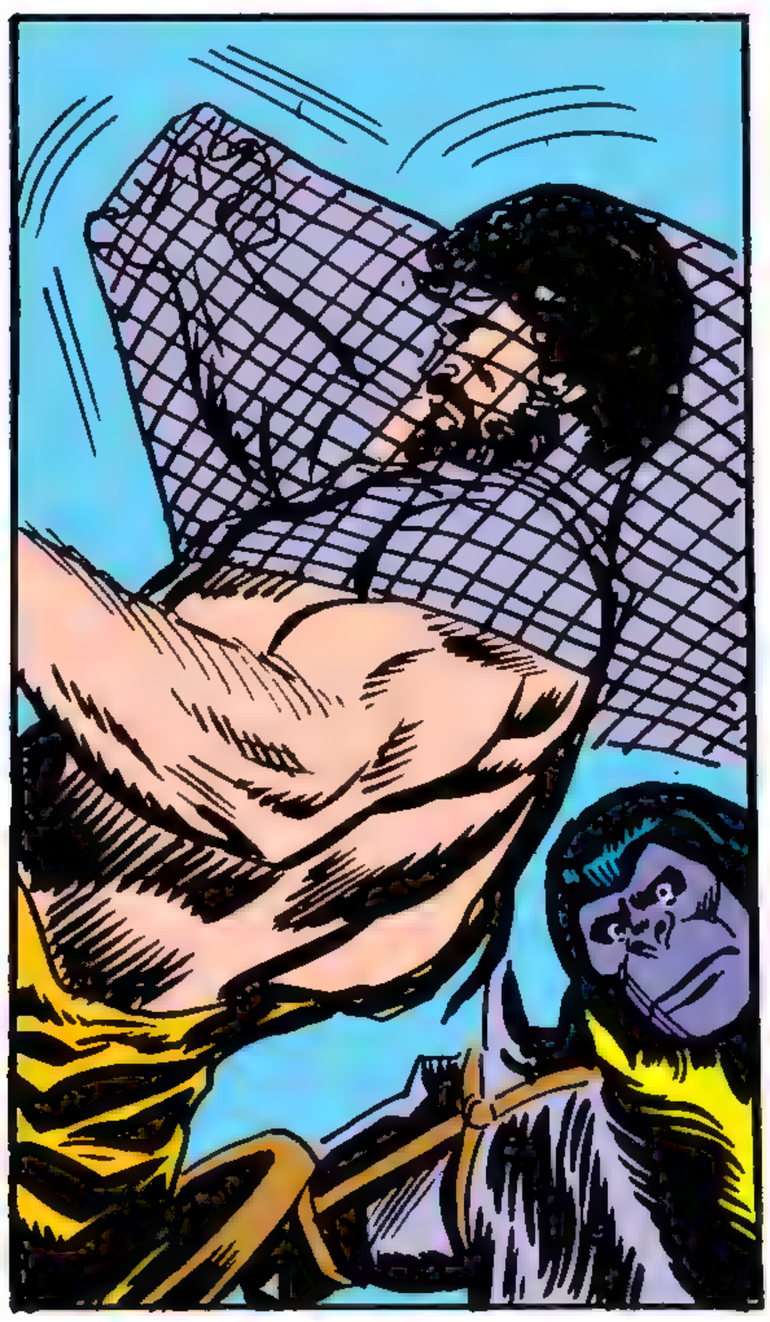

GIDDYAP, SILVER--THEY'LL BE NIPPING AT OUR HEELS IN ANOTHER MINUTE--!

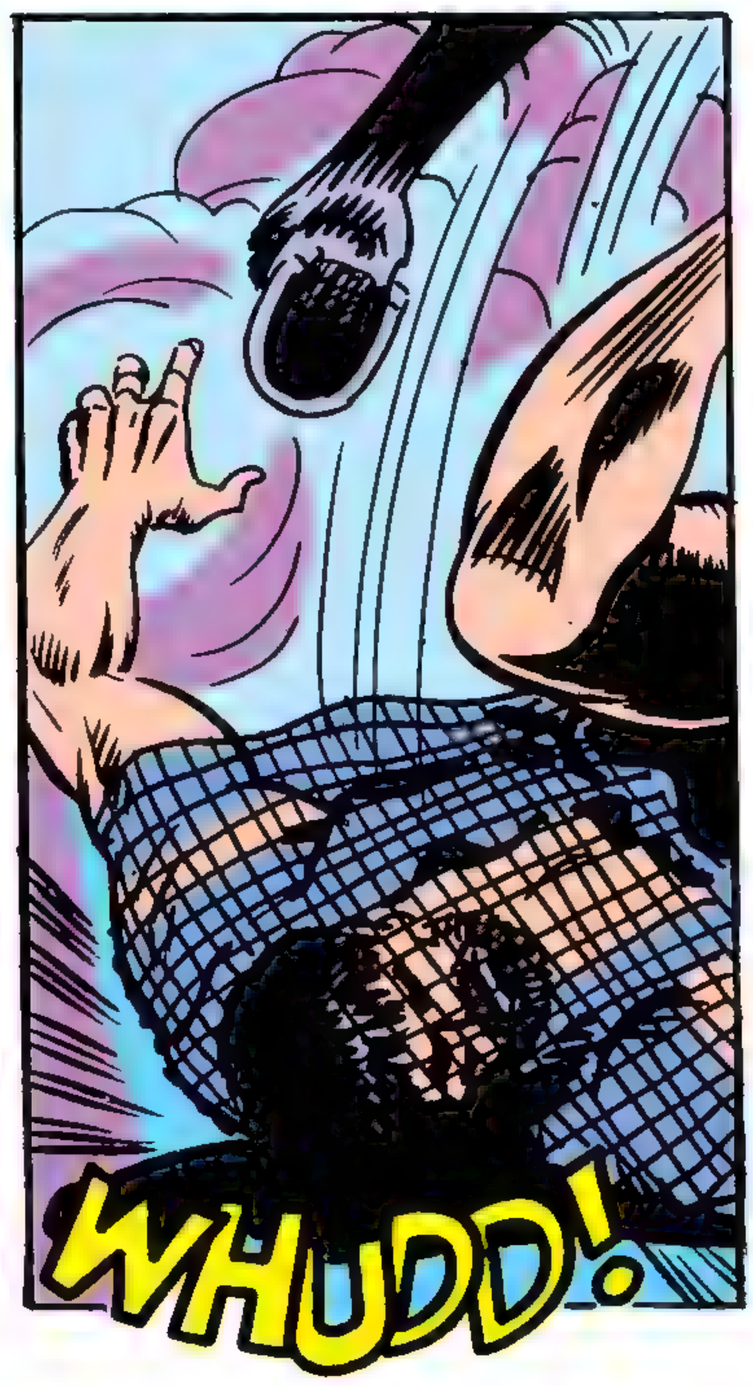
THOSE APPLES LOOK TASTY...


SHAME I DON'T HAVE TIME TO SAMPLE THEM.
HEY--!

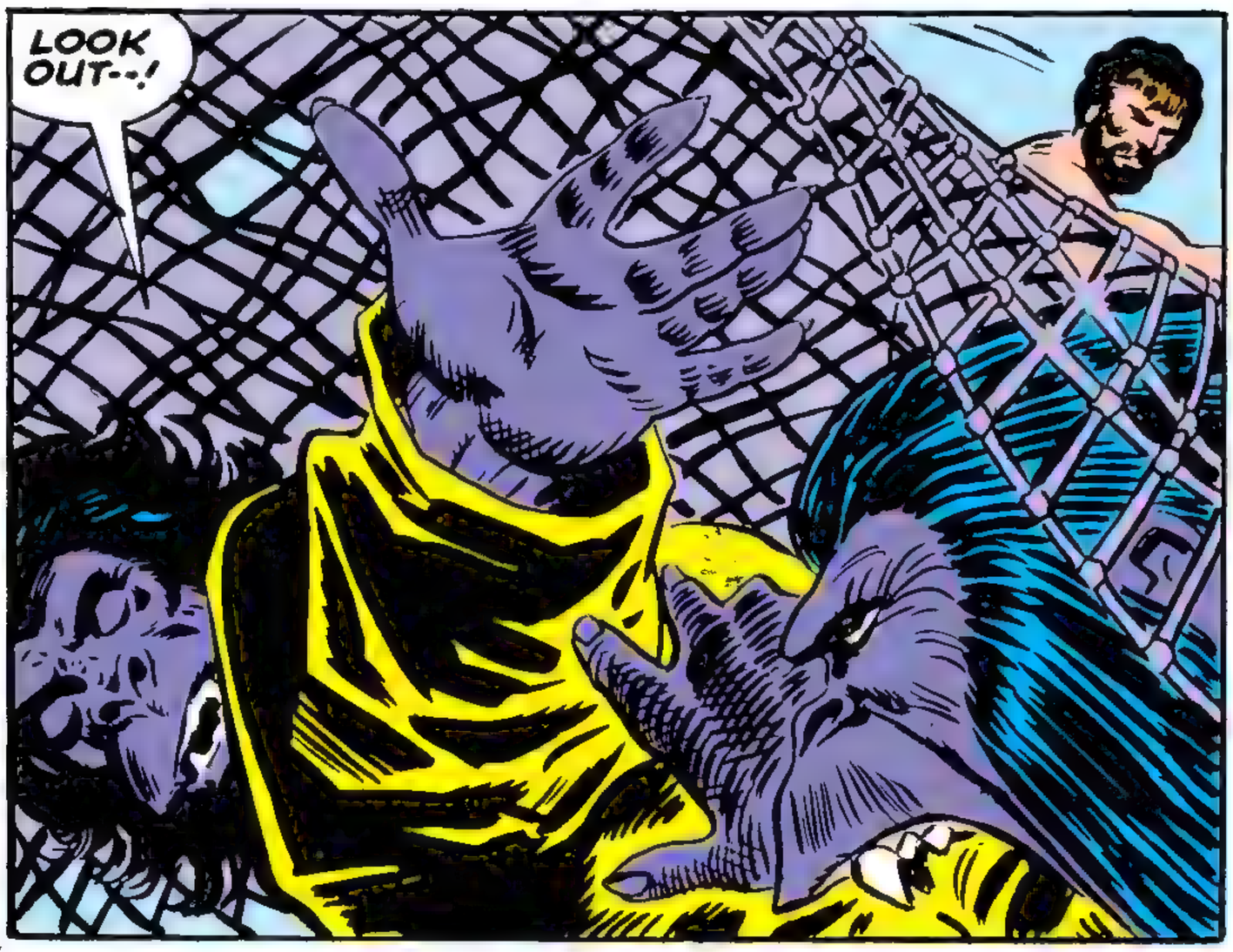

IF I CAN JUST GET TO THE OTHER END OF THIS STREET--!

GUESS AGAIN, TAYLOR.



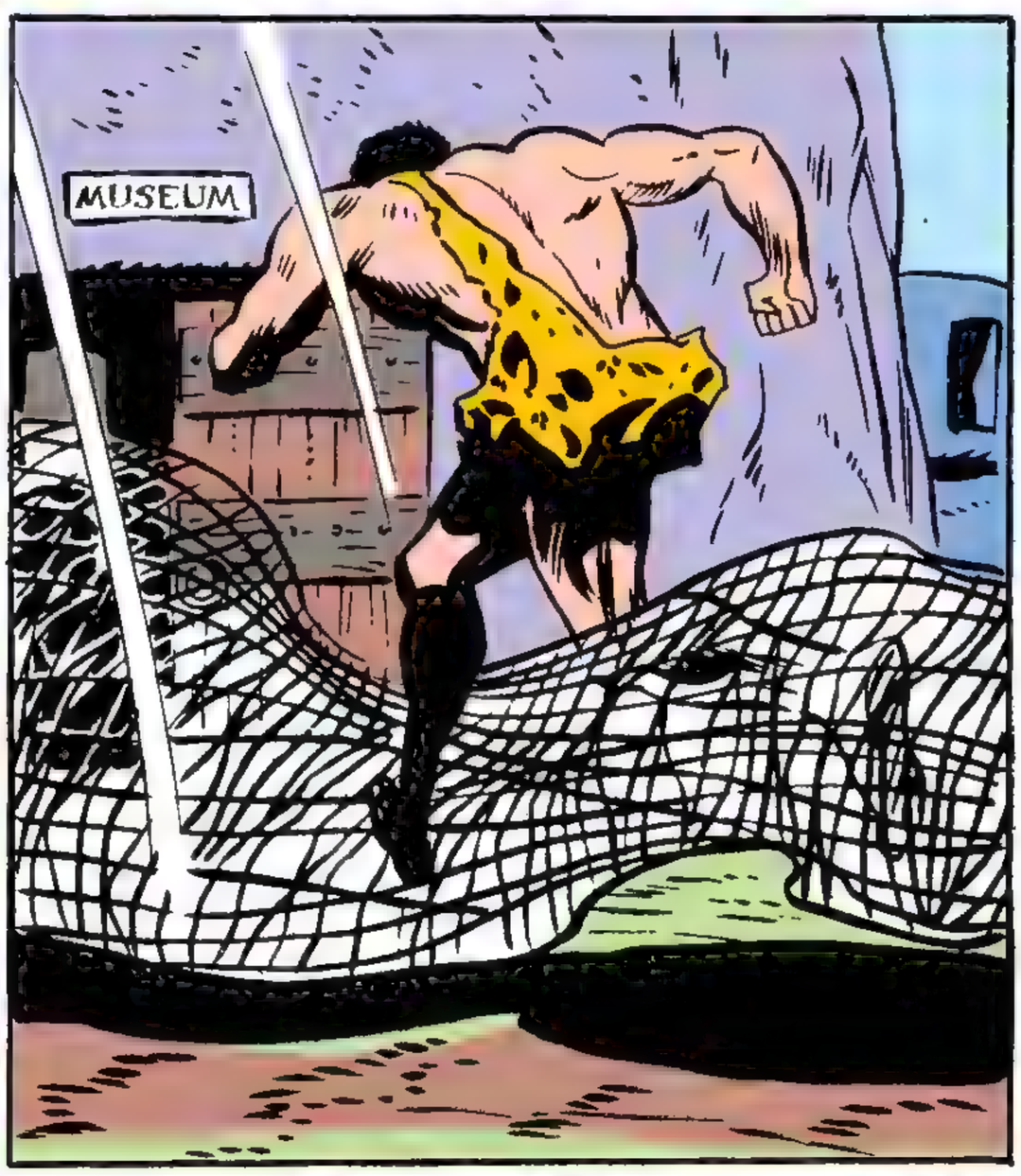

WHUDD!

HURRY-- BEFORE HE CLAWS HIS WAY OUT OF THE NETS!

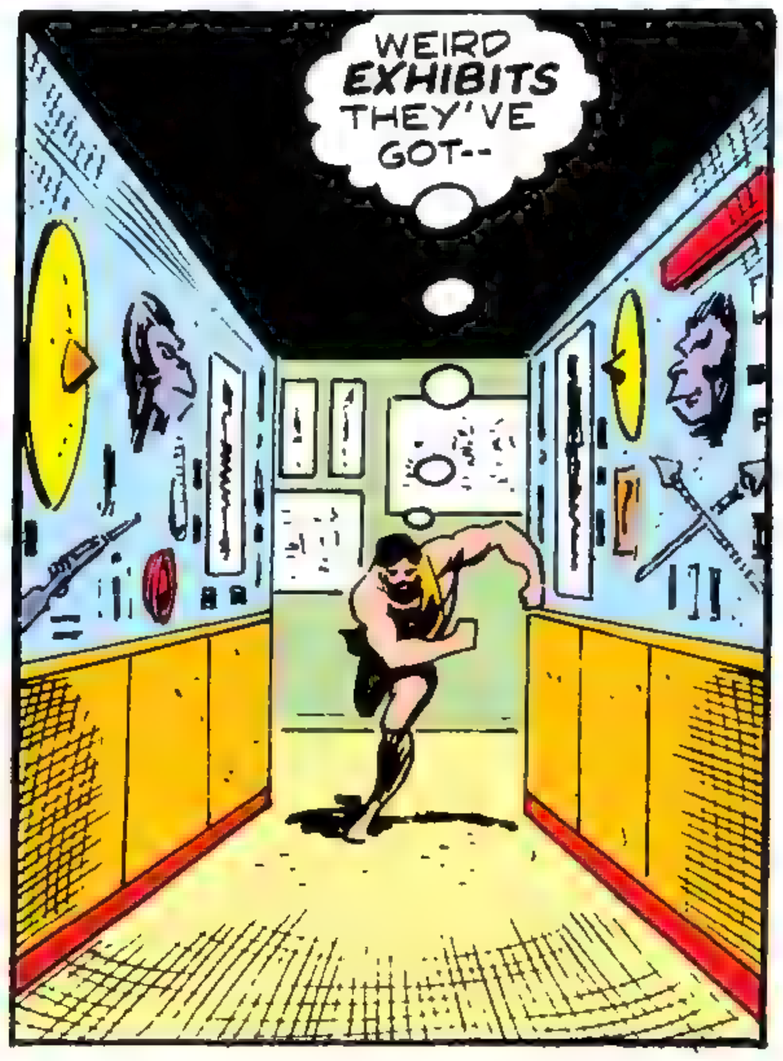

LOOK OUT--!

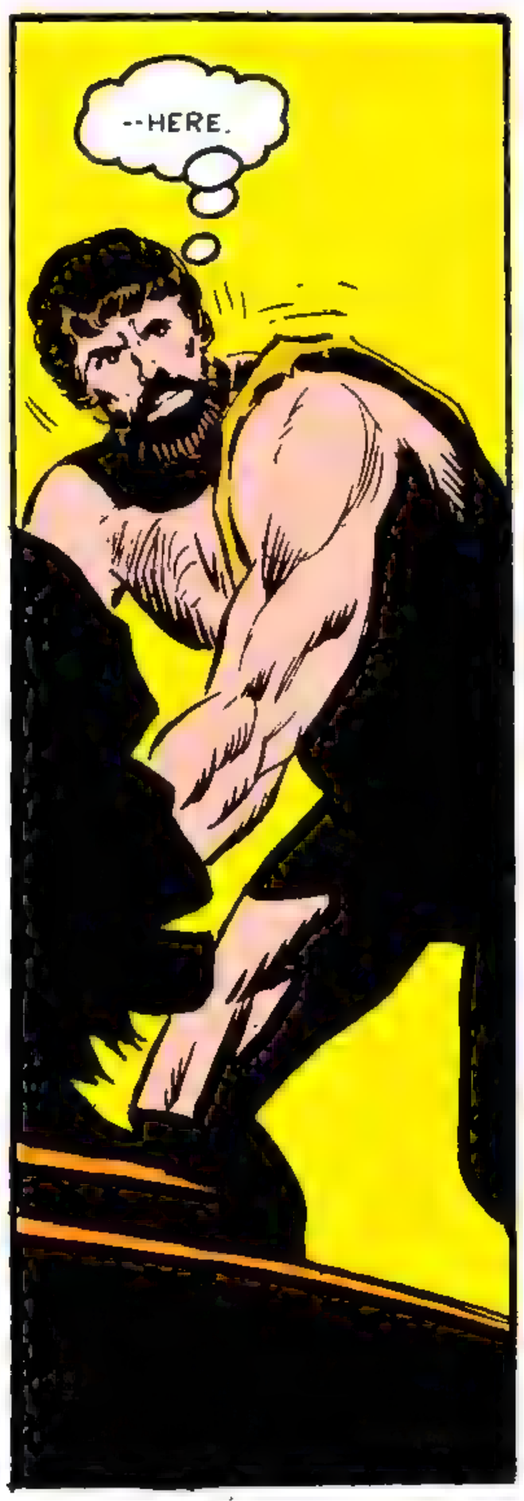
SHREEE SHREEE-EEEE
SHREEE

SHREEEEP


MUSEUM

A MUSEUM--!
NOW IF I CAN JUST FIND THE BACK EXIT...


WEIRD EXHIBITS THEY'VE GOT--


--HERE.

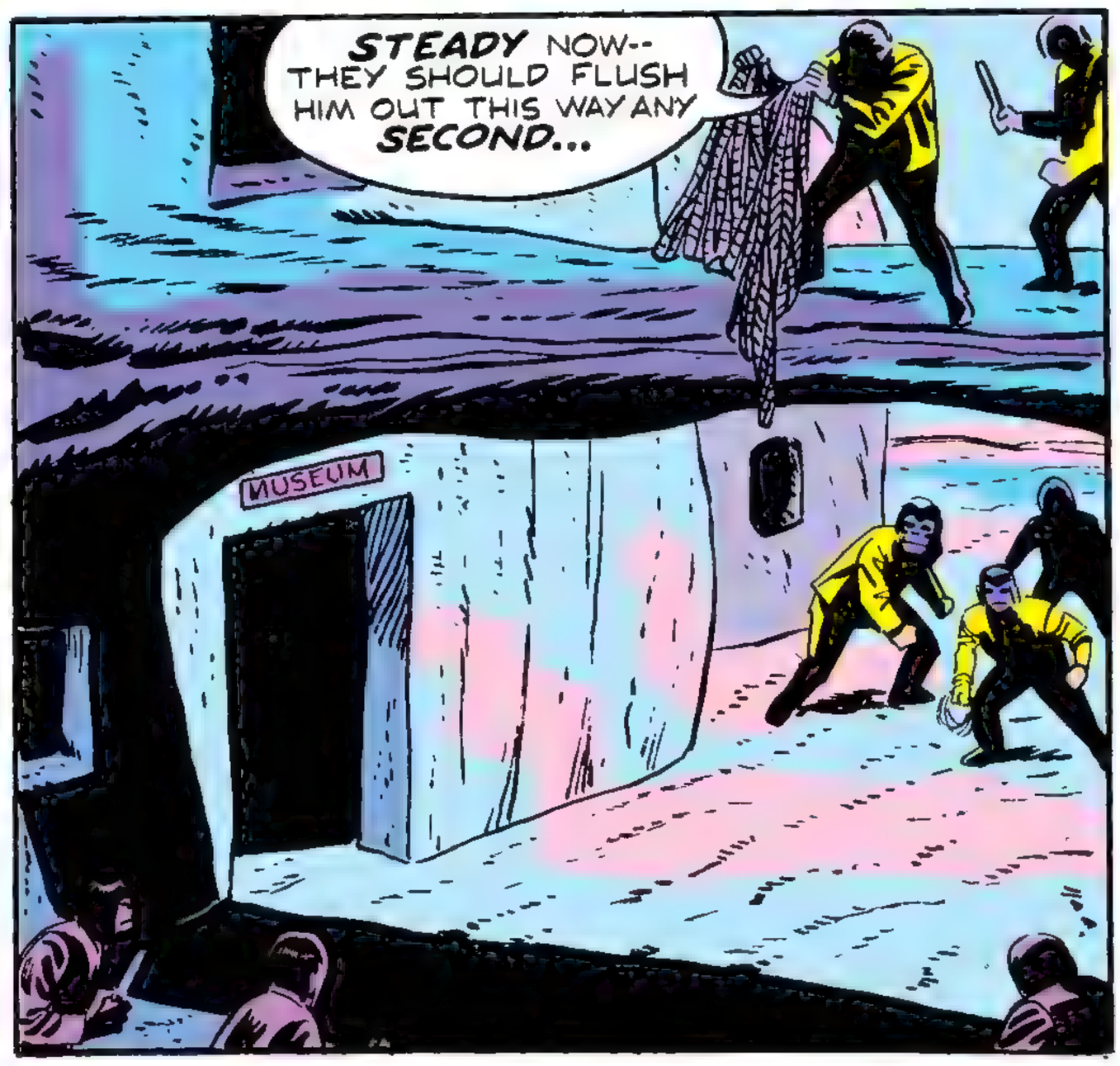
NO--!
OH MY GOD-- NO...!!

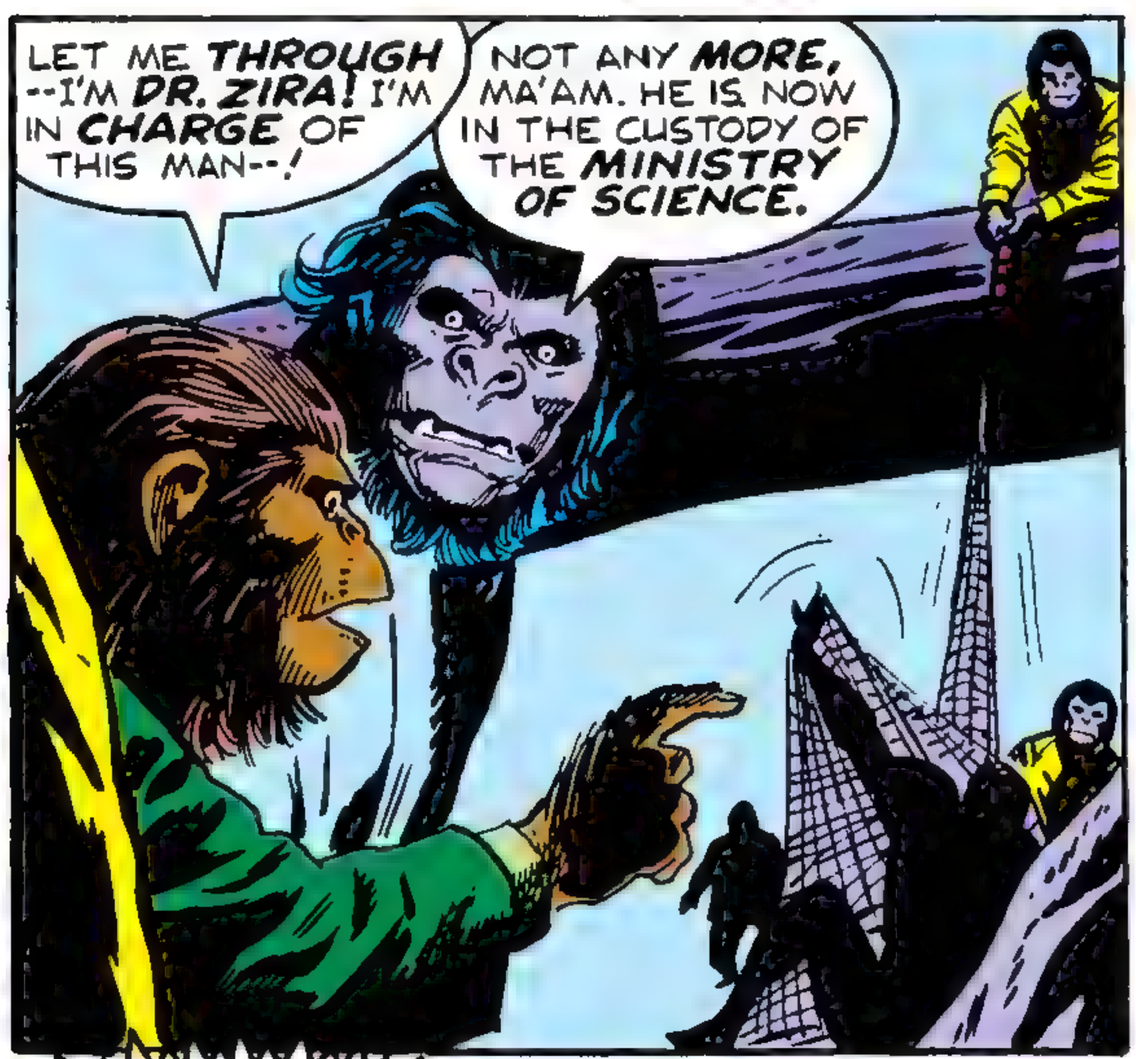
DODGE!

SHREE-EEEP
THE WHISTLE AGAIN--!

GOT TO FIND A WAY OUT OF HERE--!

THERE!


STEADY NOW-- THEY SHOULD FLUSH HIM OUT THIS WAY ANY SECOND...
MUSEUM



NEXT ISSUE: THE TRIAL!

ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES
MARVEL COMICS GROUP™
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ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES™
THE DEFENDENT HAS BEEN FOUND GUILTY!
AND THE SENTENCE IS DEATH!
DIRTY ANIMALS, YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!
I SWEAR I'LL HAVE MY REVENGE!
TRIAL BY FEAR!

STAN LEE PRESENTS PLANET OF THE APES!™

TRIAL

WRITER: DOUG MOENCH
PENCILER: GEORGE TUSKA
INKERS: M. ESPOSITO, D. HUNT
COLORIST: GEORGE ROUSSOS

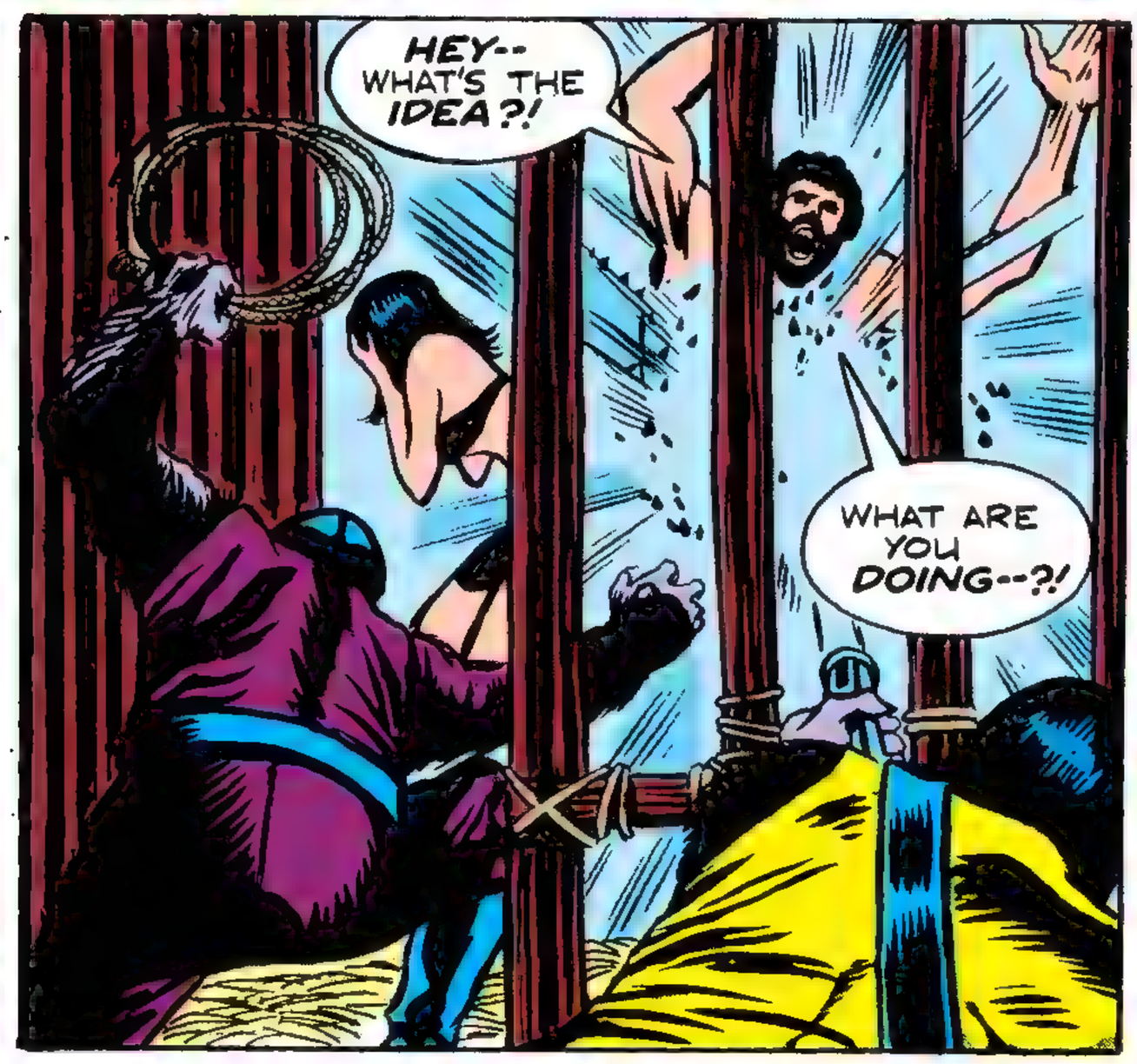
AND THAT'S HOW THEY **CAUGHT** ME, NOVA--IN AN **ANIMAL** NET. BUT I GAVE THEM A SWEET PIECE OF MY MIND, YOU CAN BET ON THAT. I **SCREAMED** AT THOSE UGLY BRUTES--SCREAMED AT THEM THE WAY I'D BEEN **DYING** TO SCREAM AT THEM EVER SINCE THE DAY I...

...BUT I'VE ALREADY **TOLD** YOU THE STORY, HAVEN'T I? TOLD IT TO YOU EVERY DAY FOR THE PAST **FOUR WEEKS.**

WHY ARE THEY GIVING ME THE **SILENT TREATMENT,** NOVA? WHERE'S **ZIRA--CORNELIUS?** WHERE **ARE** THEY? WHY DOESN'T SOMEBODY COME TO **SPEAK** TO ME, NOVA?

SAY, DID YOU HEAR SOMETHING, NOVA?
SOUNDS LIKE--

--THE WATER HOSE!
FOOOSHSH


HEY-- WHAT'S THE IDEA?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING--?!

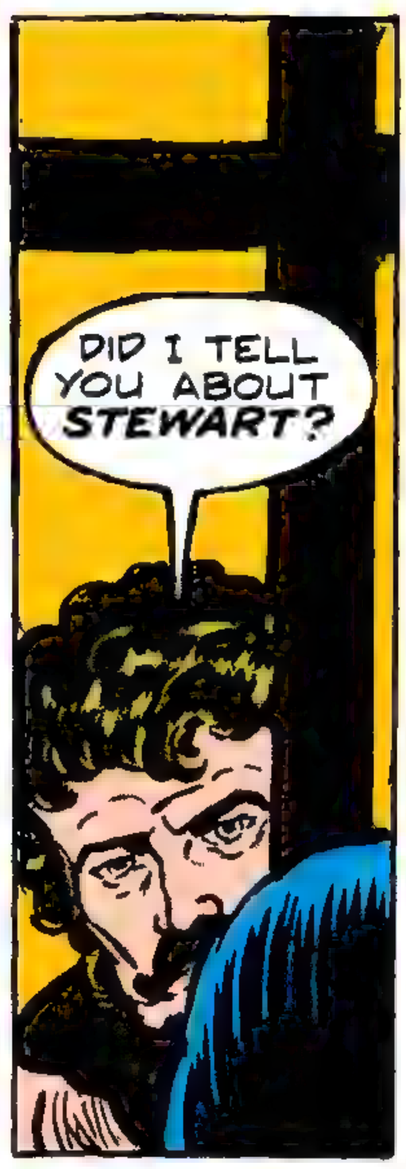
LEAVE HER ALONE!
SHRACK!

TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF HER, YOU HAIRY SCUM!
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING HER? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?! WHY ARE YOU SEPARATING US--?!
SAY SOMETHING, YOU FILTHY MONSTER!!

ANSWER ME--!!!
TURN THE WATER OFF.
ANSWER ME, JULIUS-- YOU SLIMY DUNGEON-WORM!!
SHUT UP!
THE REASON NO ONE'LL TALK TO YOU IS BECAUSE YOU'RE A FREAK!
WHERE'S DR. ZIRA? WHY HAVE I--
I SAID SHUT UP!!
AND I MEANT SHUT UP!!
YAHG
SWOKK!
APE!
APES WEARING CLOTHES! IT'S A MADHOUSE --A MAD-HOUSE!!!
WHAT'S THE USE...?
NOW I DON'T EVEN HAVE YOU, NOVA.
AND THAT'S THE JOKE. ME --NEEDING SOMEONE...

BACK ON EARTH I NEEDED NOBODY, NOVA. OH THERE WERE WOMEN--LOTS OF THEM. BUT IT WAS LOVE-MAKING WITHOUT LOVE. THAT'S THE KIND OF WORLD IT WAS TURNING INTO, WITH THE HELP OF CYNICS LIKE ME.
SO I LEFT IT-- BECAUSE THERE WAS NO ONE DEAR ENOUGH TO KEEP ME THERE...


DID I TELL YOU ABOUT STEWART?

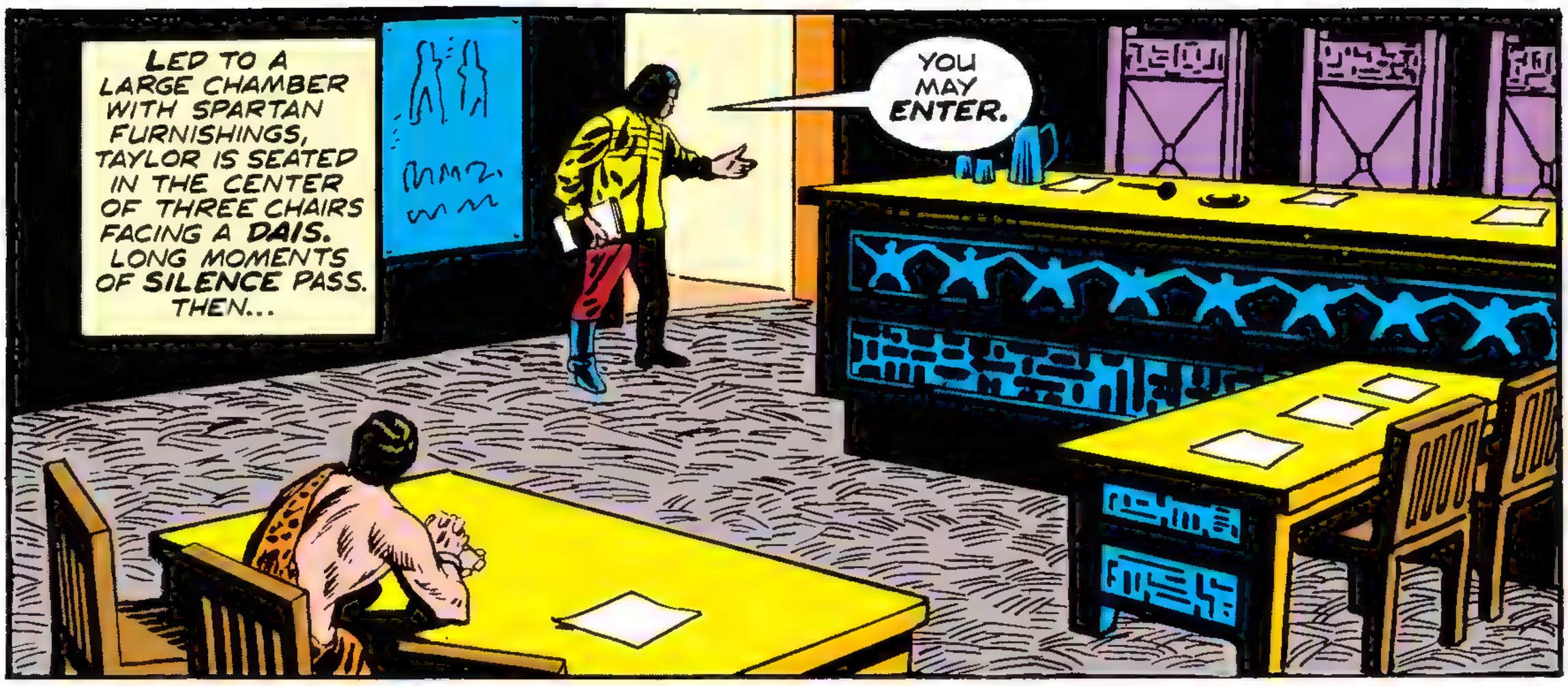
NOW THERE WAS A LOVELY GIRL. THE MOST PRECIOUS CARGO WE BROUGHT ALONG. SHE WAS TO BE OUR NEW EVE...
...SO I SUPPOSE IT'S JUST AS WELL SHE DIDN'T LIVE TO SEE THIS.

I WONDER IF IT'S LOVE BETWEEN US?
IT'D FIT WITH THE PATTERN OF MY LIFE. ME-- FINDING LOVE HERE ...IN HELL.
HOW TOUCHING.

I REALLY HATE TO BREAK UP SUCH A TENDER SCENE, FREAK--
--BUT IT SEEMS YOU'RE WANTED.

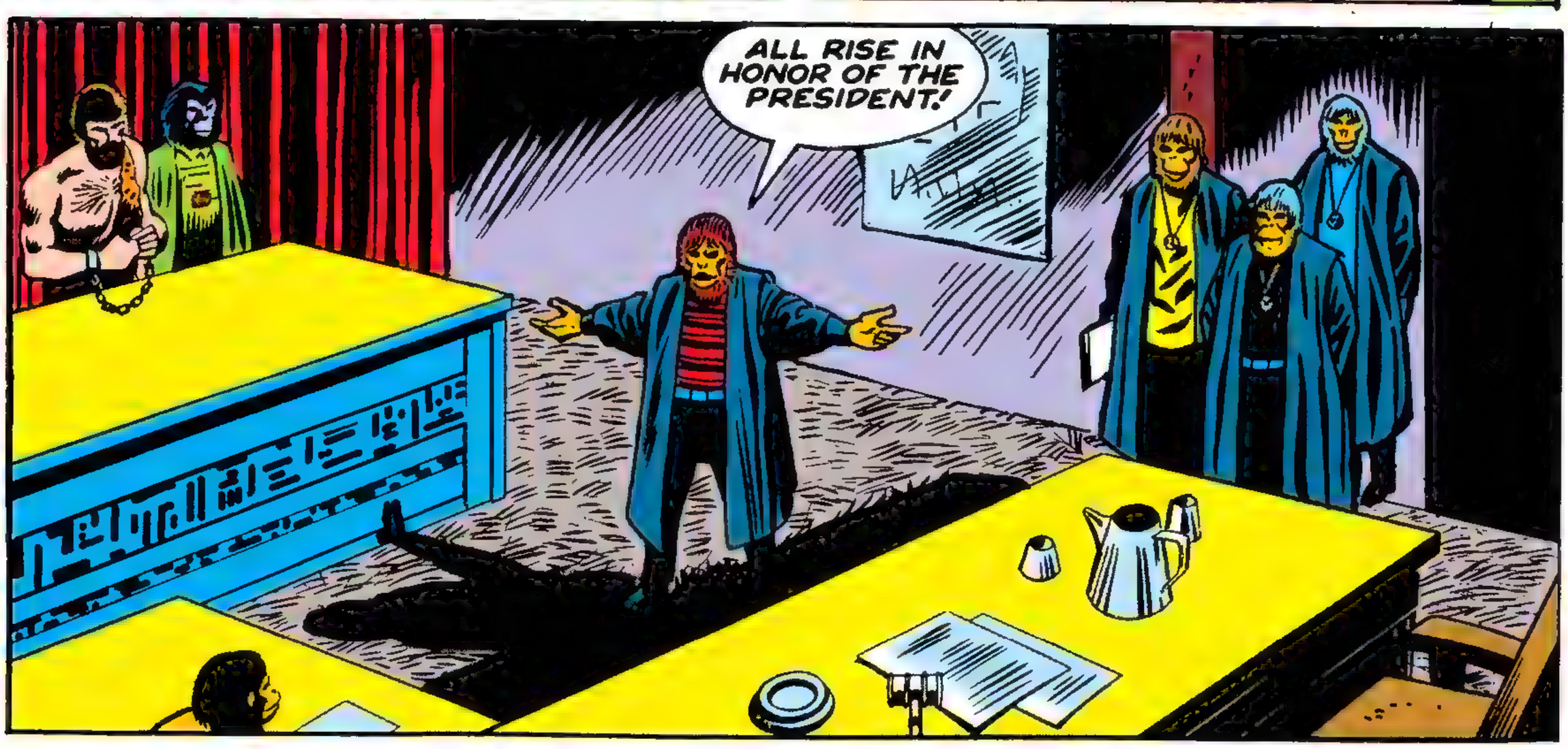
I SUPPOSE YOU HAVEN'T RESISTED THE MANACLES BECAUSE YOU THINK SOME OF YOUR QUESTIONS ARE GOING TO BE ANSWERED.
WELL, WE'LL SEE, FREAK, WE'LL SEE.

GOOD-BYE, NOVA. WE'LL MEET AGAIN.
PLEASE-- TAKE HIM OUT OF HERE. HE SICKENS ME.


LED TO A LARGE CHAMBER WITH SPARTAN FURNISHINGS, TAYLOR IS SEATED IN THE CENTER OF THREE CHAIRS FACING A DAIS. LONG MOMENTS OF SILENCE PASS. THEN...
YOU MAY ENTER.

ZIRA-- CORNELIUS. WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
SHHHHH!

BUT...WHAT IS THIS?
A HEARING.
BE CLEVER AND BE QUIET. --OR WE'VE ALL HAD IT.


ALL RISE IN HONOR OF THE PRESIDENT!

BE SEATED.

THIS AD HOC TRIBUNAL OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY IS NOW IN SESSION. PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMY PRESIDING. ON MY RIGHT, DR. MAXIMUS, COMMISSIONER FOR ANIMAL AFFAIRS...
...ON MY LEFT, DR. ZAIUS, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND CHIEF DEFENDER OF THE FAITH...

AND APPEARING FOR THE STATE, DR. HONORIUS, DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE IN THE PROSECUTION.

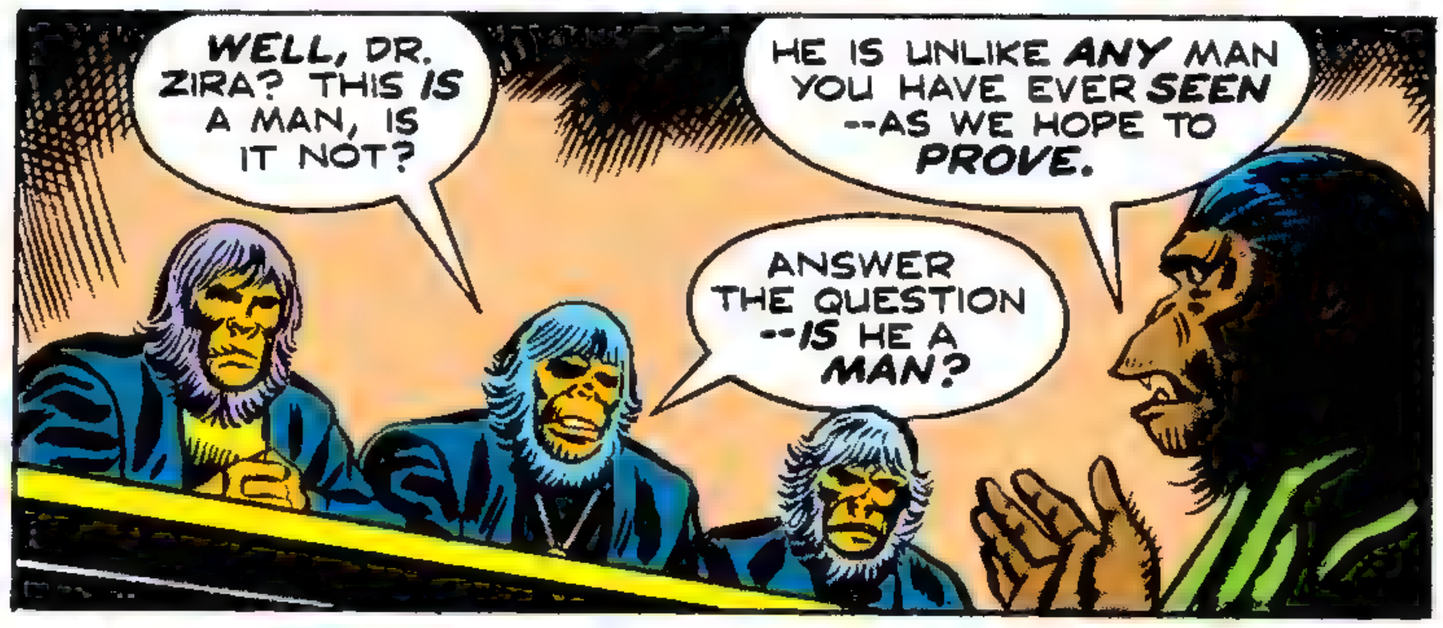
LET IT BE CLEAR AT THE OUTSET THAT ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THIS INQUIRY ARE CONFIDENTIAL, AND ANYONE DISCUSSING THEM OUTSIDE THIS CHAMBER WILL BE HELD IN CONTEMPT OF THE TRIBUNAL.
YOU MAY PROCEED, DR. HONORIUS.

BY YOUR LEAVE, MR. PRESIDENT--MAY I POINT OUT THAT THE TRIBUNAL HAS NOT YET DEFINED THE PURPOSE OF THIS INQUIRY.
MR. PRESIDENT, I OBJECT--!

RESTRAIN YOURSELF, DR. HONORIUS. THERE IS NO HARM IN ANSWERING HER QUESTION.
NOW THEN, DR. ZIRA... SINCE YOU ARE THE ONE WHO REQUESTED AN OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT YOUR CASE, SURELY YOU MUST KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE.

MY OWN PURPOSE IS TO SAVE THIS EXCEPTIONAL CREATURE FROM MUTILATION.
AND OUR PURPOSE IS TO SETTLE CUSTODIAL AND JURISDICTIONAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE BEAST AND TO DETERMINE WHAT'S TO BE DONE WITH HIM.

BUT AT THE VERY LEAST, THIS MAN HAS THE RIGHT TO KNOW WHETHER THERE'S A CHARGE AGAINST HIM.
OBJECTION! THE ACCUSED IS INDEED A MAN. THEREFORE HE HAS NO RIGHTS UNDER APE LAW.


WELL, DR. ZIRA? THIS IS A MAN, IS IT NOT?
HE IS UNLIKE ANY MAN YOU HAVE EVER SEEN --AS WE HOPE TO PROVE.
ANSWER THE QUESTION --IS HE A MAN?

SIR... IF I MAY...? THE QUESTION IS THE POINT AT ISSUE: IS HE A MAN? OR A DEVIATE-- A FREAK OF NATURE?
OBJECTION!

SUSTAINED. IN ALL FAIRNESS, DR. ZIRA, YOU MUST ADMIT THAT THE ACCUSED IS A NON-APE, AND THEREFORE HAS NO RIGHTS UNDER APE LAW.
THEN WHY IS HE CALLED THE ACCUSED? YOUR HONORS MUST THINK HIM GUILTY OF SOMETHING.

THIS MAN IS NOT BEING TRIED. HE IS BEING DISPOSED OF.
IT IS SCIENTIFIC HERESY WHICH IS ACTUALLY ON TRIAL HERE.
WELL PUT, DR. MAXIMUS. LET US WARN OUR FRIENDS THAT THEY JEOPARDIZE THEIR OWN CAREERS BY DEFENDING THIS ANIMAL.

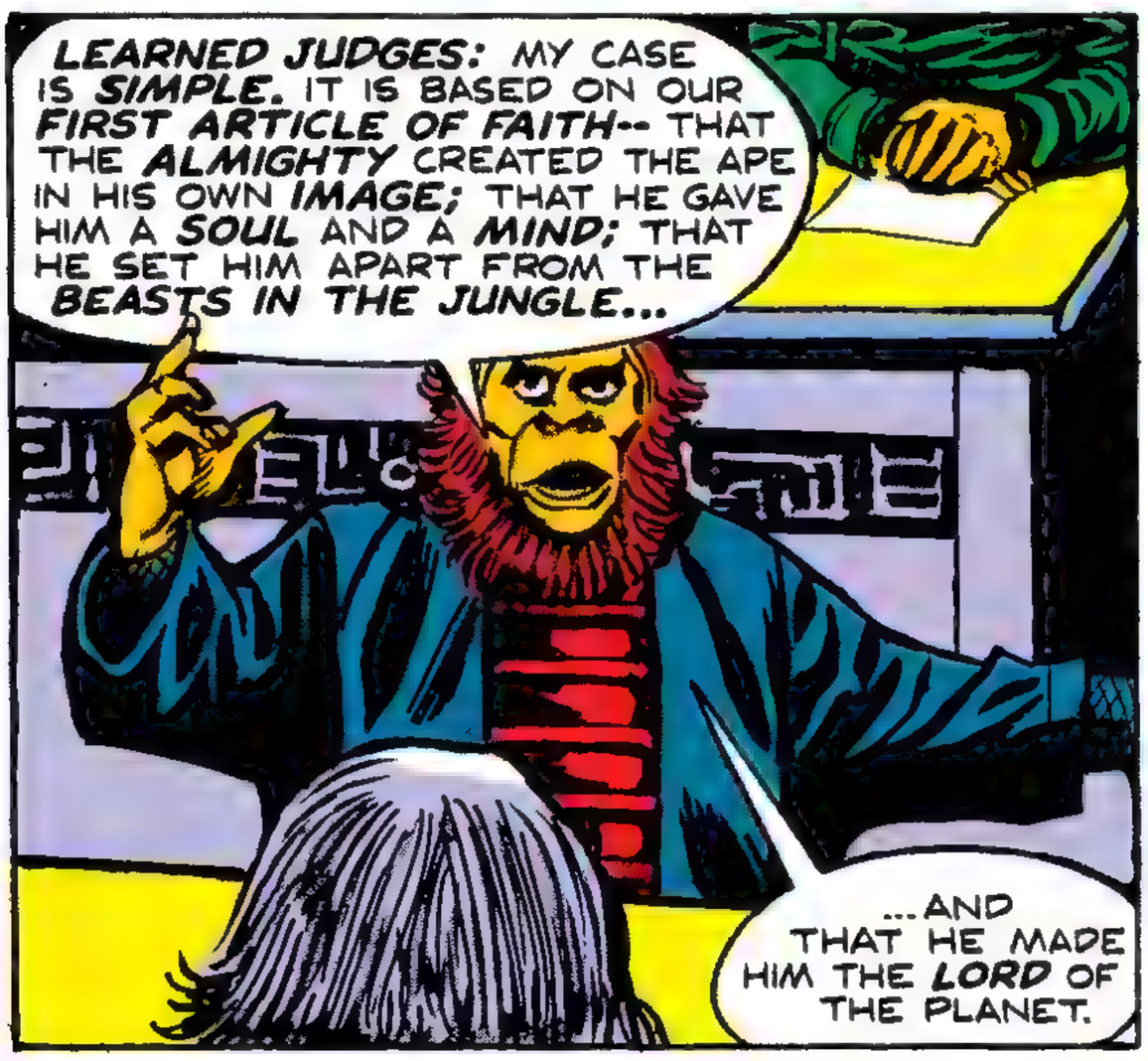
THEN I'LL DEFEND MYSELF.

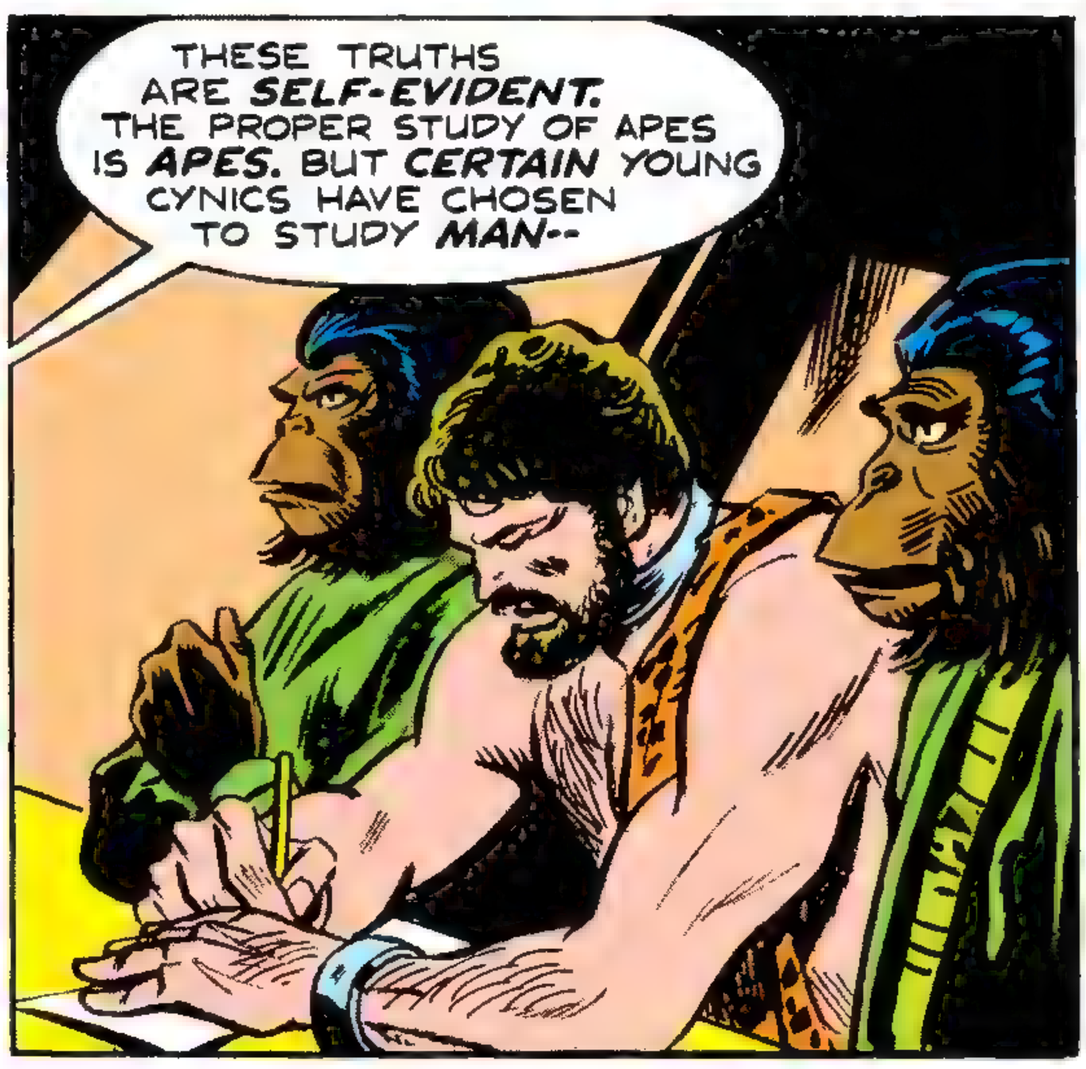
DR. ZIRA, I DEMAND THAT YOU INSTRUCT THIS... THIS BRIGHT EYES TO SIT DOWN.
TWOK TWOK
MY NAME IS TAYLOR.

DR. ZIRA, IT SAYS HERE THAT HIS NAME IS BRIGHT EYES. YOU GAVE HIM THAT NAME YOURSELF.
THIS HEARING IS ABSURD! LET ME TELL MY STORY--

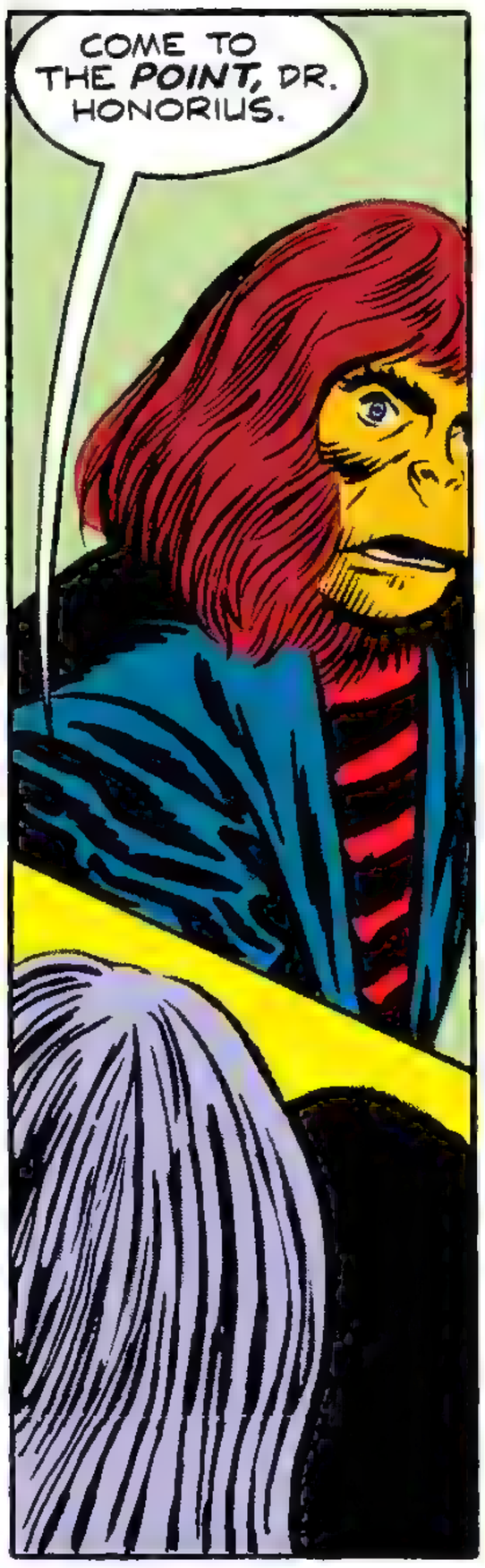
BAILIFF! MAKE THE ANIMAL BE QUIET!!
KRAK

IF IT WEREN'T FOR THESE MANACLES, YOU HAIRY SON-OF-A...
NOW THEN-- STATE YOUR CASE, MR. PROSECUTOR.


LEARNED JUDGES: MY CASE IS SIMPLE. IT IS BASED ON OUR FIRST ARTICLE OF FAITH-- THAT THE ALMIGHTY CREATED THE APE IN HIS OWN IMAGE; THAT HE GAVE HIM A SOUL AND A MIND; THAT HE SET HIM APART FROM THE BEASTS IN THE JUNGLE...
...AND THAT HE MADE HIM THE LORD OF THE PLANET.


THESE TRUTHS ARE SELF-EVIDENT. THE PROPER STUDY OF APES IS APES. BUT CERTAIN YOUNG CYNICS HAVE CHOSEN TO STUDY MAN--

--AND I DENOUNCE THEM AS PERVERTED SCIENTISTS... BENT ON NOTHING BUT THE ADVANCEMENT OF AN INSIDIOUS THEORY CALLED "EVOLUTION."
AND I SAY THERE IS A CONSPIRACY AFOOT TO UNDERMINE THE VERY CORNERSTONE OF OUR FAITH, AND TO--


COME TO THE POINT, DR. HONORIUS.

DIRECTLY, MR. PRESIDENT. THIS WRETCHED MAN, THE ACCUSED, IS ONLY A PAWN IN THE CONSPIRACY. WE KNOW THAT HE WAS WOUNDED IN THE THROAT AT THE TIME OF HIS CAPTURE.
THE STATE CHARGES THAT DR. ZIRA AND A CORRUPT SURGEON NAMED GALEN EXPERIMENTED ON THIS WOUNDED ANIMAL--

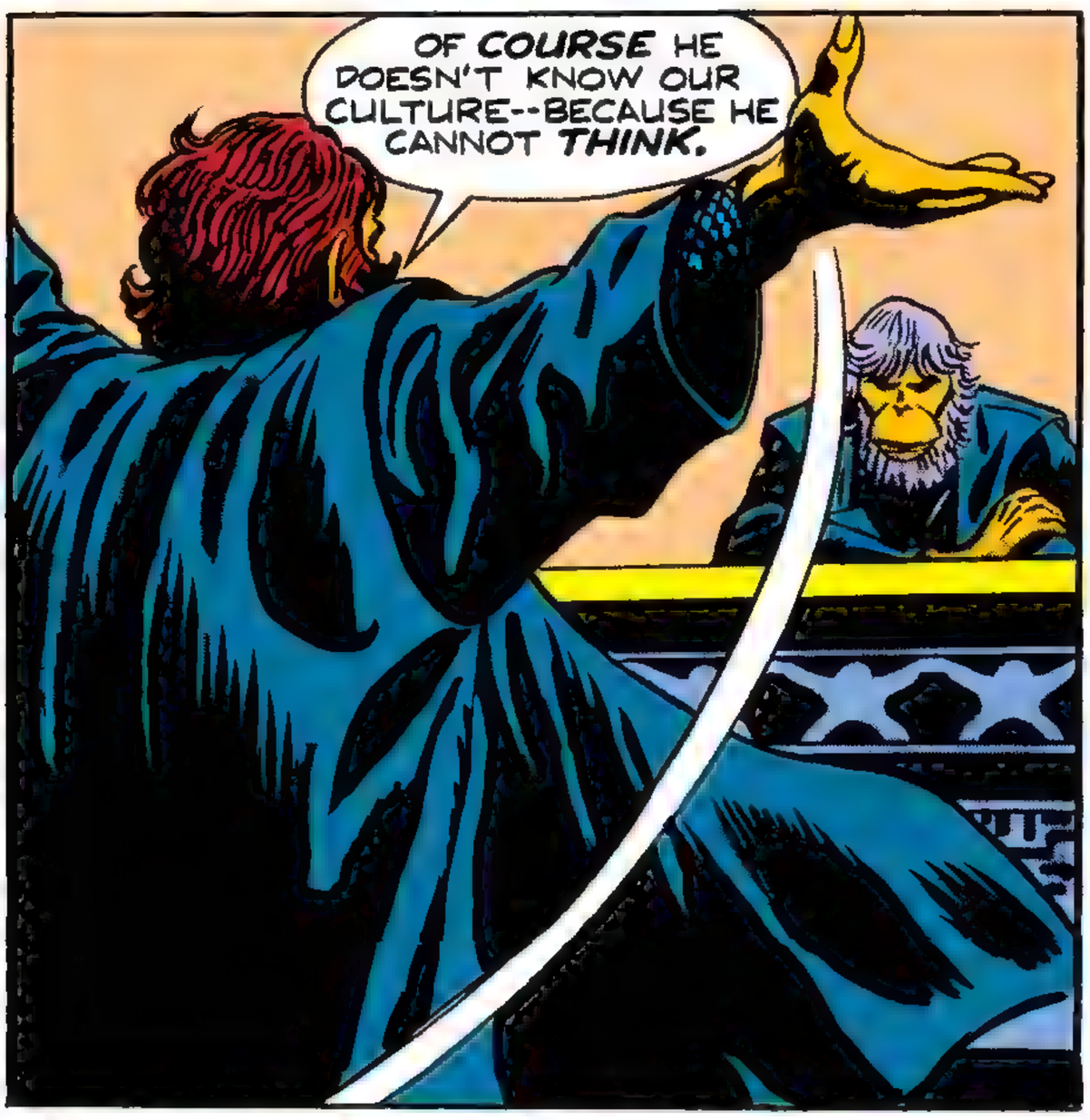
--TAMPERING WITH HIS BRAIN AND THROAT TISSUES TO CREATE A SPEAKING MONSTER--!

THAT'S A LIE!!

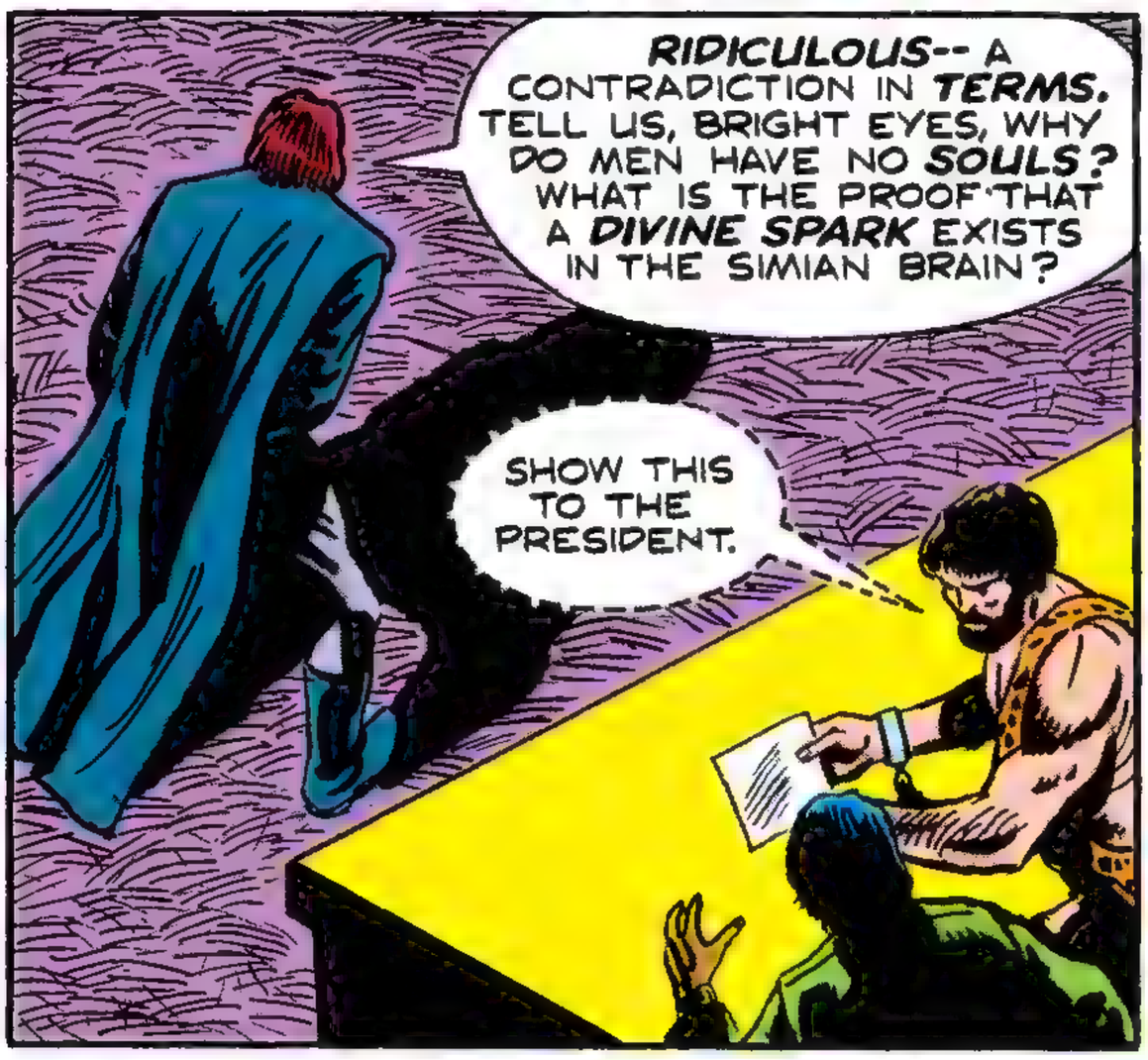
MIND YOUR TONGUE, ZIRA.
KRAK
BUT YOU CAN'T BELIEVE THAT WE CREATED HIS MIND, TOO! NOT ONLY CAN THIS MAN SPEAK, BUT HE CAN WRITE. HE CAN REASON.

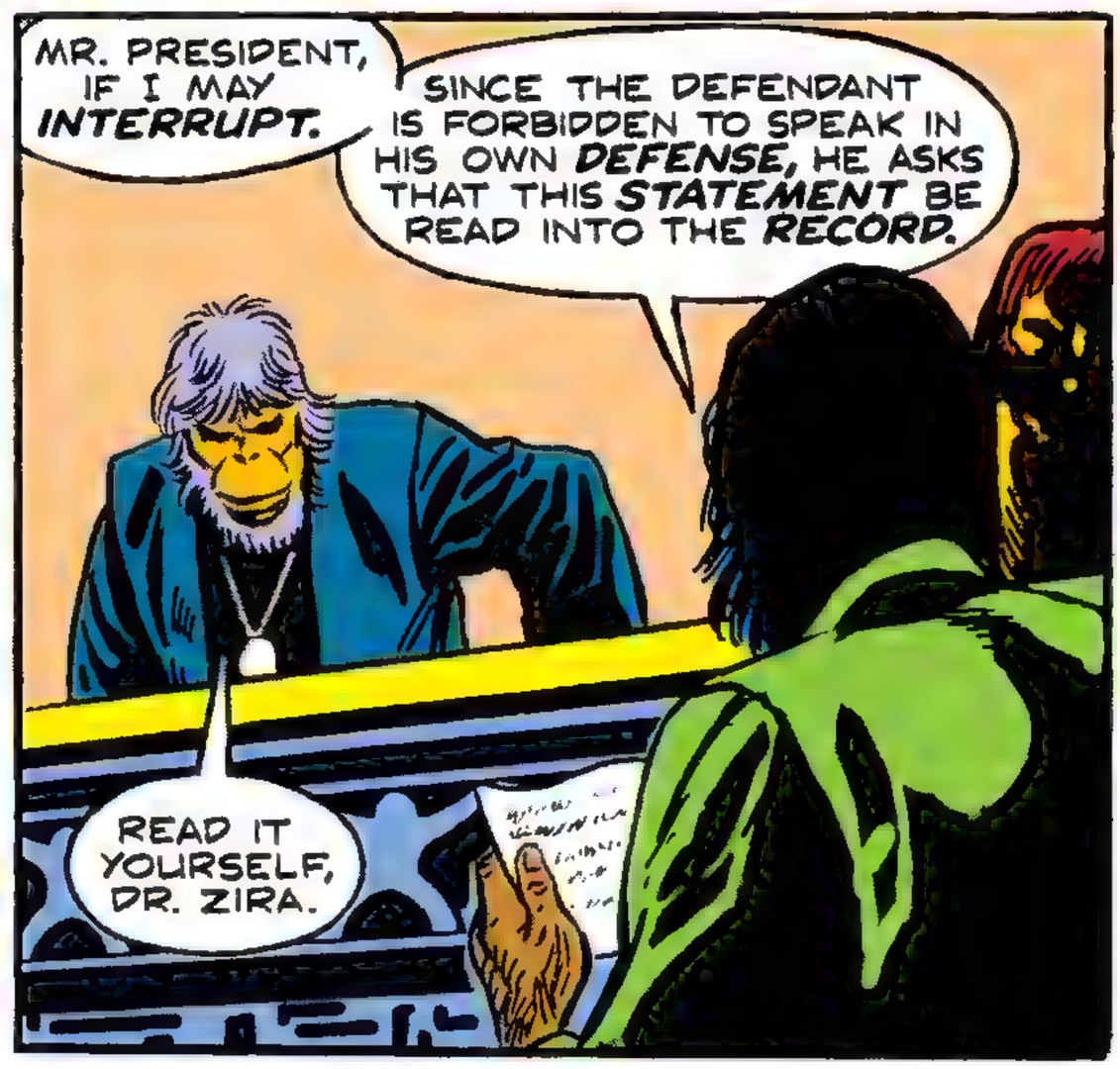
HE CAN REASON, DR. ZIRA?
WITH THE TRIBUNAL'S PERMISSION, I WISH TO EXPOSE THIS HOAX BY DIRECT EXAMINATION.
PROCEED. BUT DON'T TURN THIS HEARING INTO A FARCE.

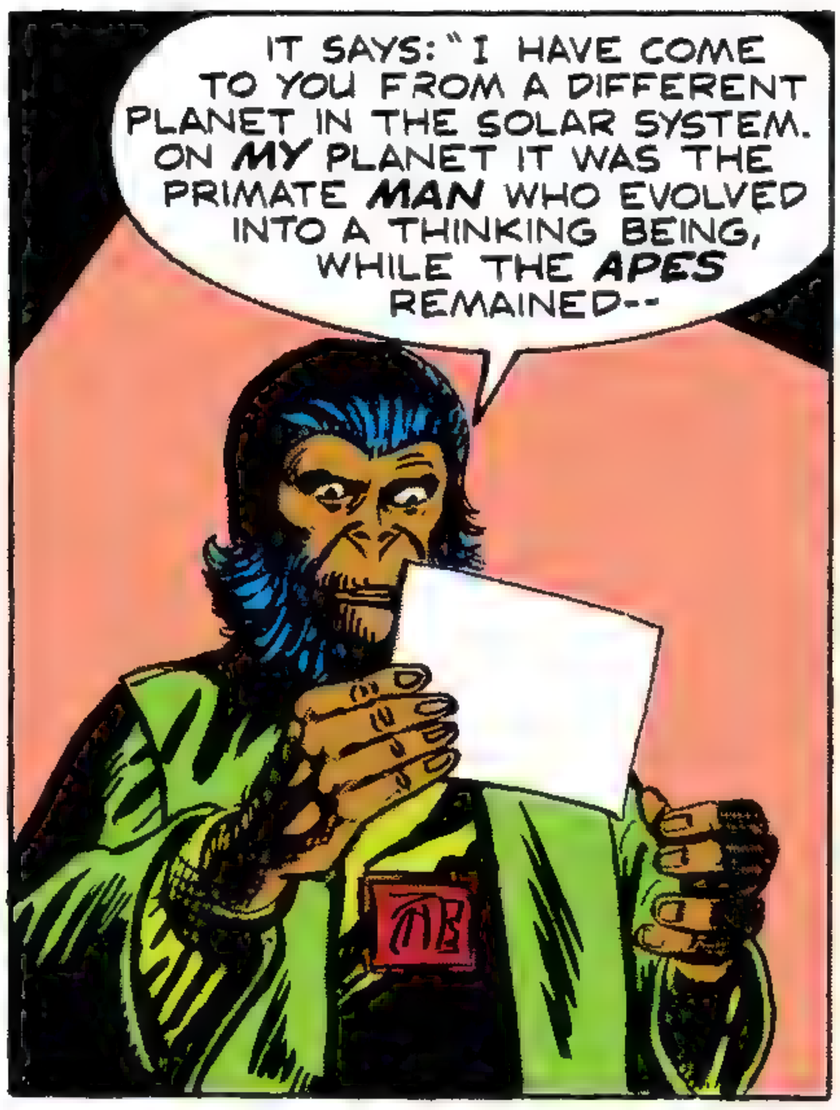
TELL THE COURT, BRIGHT EYES-- WHAT IS THE SECOND ARTICLE OF FAITH?
I ADMIT I KNOW NOTHING OF YOUR CULTURE.

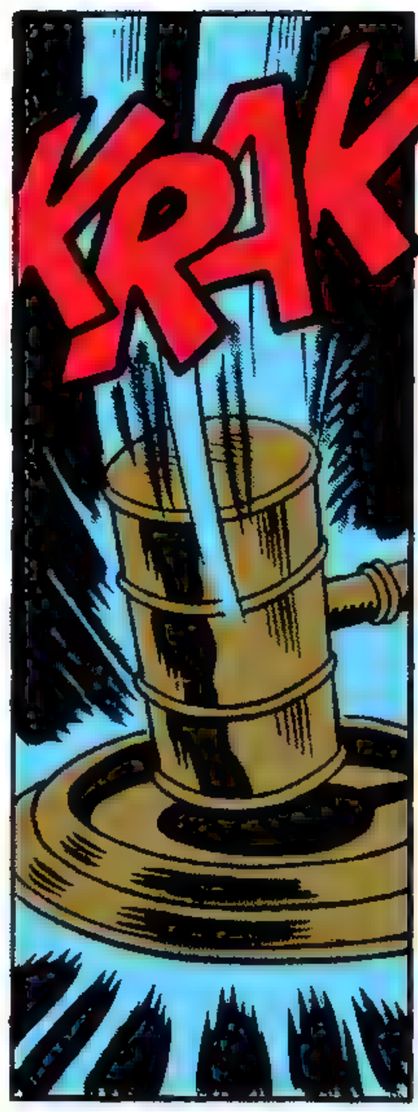

OF COURSE HE DOESN'T KNOW OUR CULTURE--BECAUSE HE CANNOT THINK.

TELL US WHY ALL APES WERE CREATED EQUAL!
SOME APES, IT SEEMS, ARE MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS.


RIDICULOUS-- A CONTRADICTION IN TERMS. TELL US, BRIGHT EYES, WHY DO MEN HAVE NO SOULS? WHAT IS THE PROOF THAT A DIVINE SPARK EXISTS IN THE SIMIAN BRAIN?
SHOW THIS TO THE PRESIDENT.


MR. PRESIDENT, IF I MAY INTERRUPT.
SINCE THE DEFENDANT IS FORBIDDEN TO SPEAK IN HIS OWN DEFENSE, HE ASKS THAT THIS STATEMENT BE READ INTO THE RECORD.
READ IT YOURSELF, DR. ZIRA.


IT SAYS: "I HAVE COME TO YOU FROM A DIFFERENT PLANET IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM. ON MY PLANET IT WAS THE PRIMATE MAN WHO EVOLVED INTO A THINKING BEING, WHILE THE APES REMAINED--


KRAK

STOP RIGHT THERE, DR. ZIRA!
YOU ARE, OF COURSE, AWARE THAT THIS JOKE IS IN VERY POOR TASTE--?!

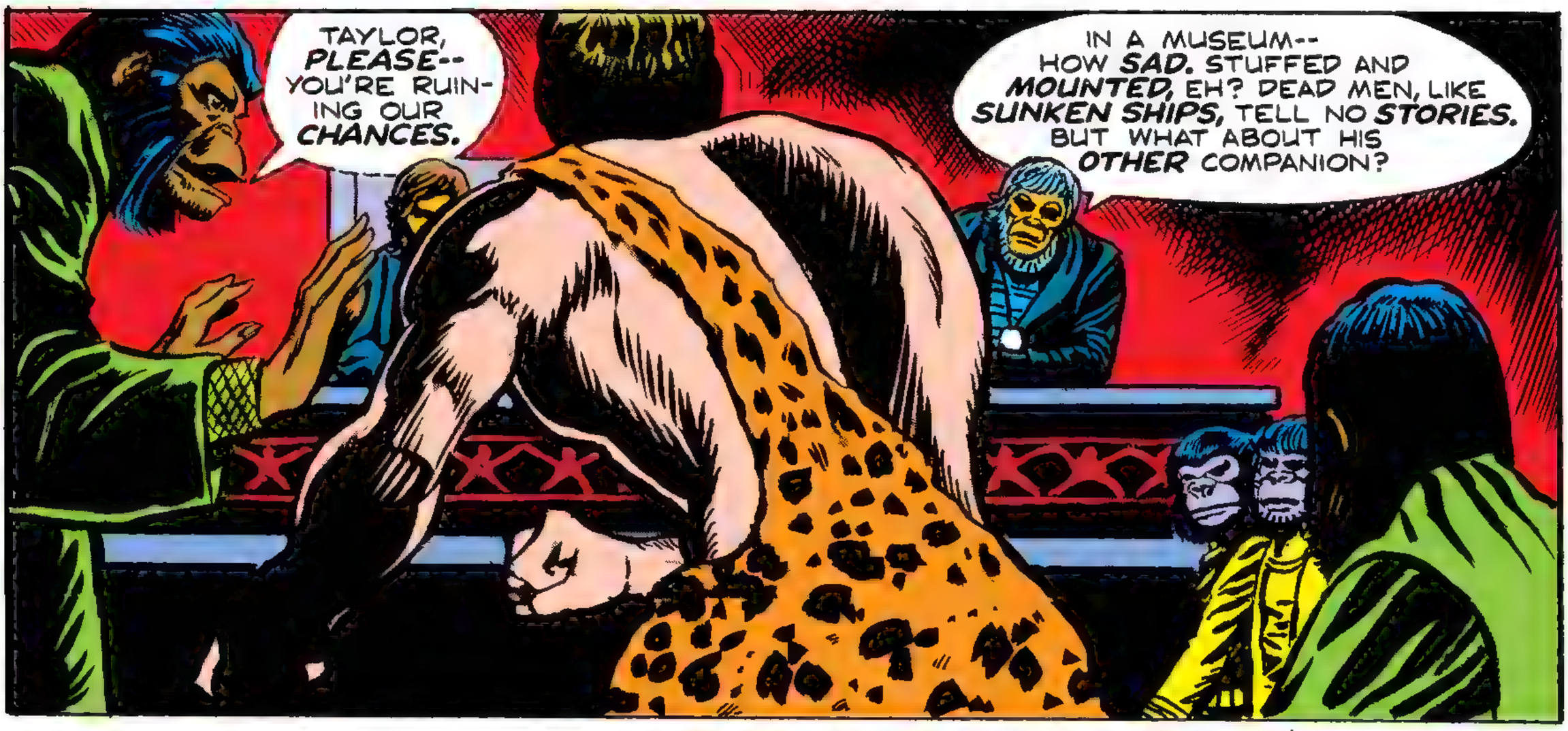
IS IT A JOKE TO SEEK THE TRUTH ABOUT THIS MAN?!

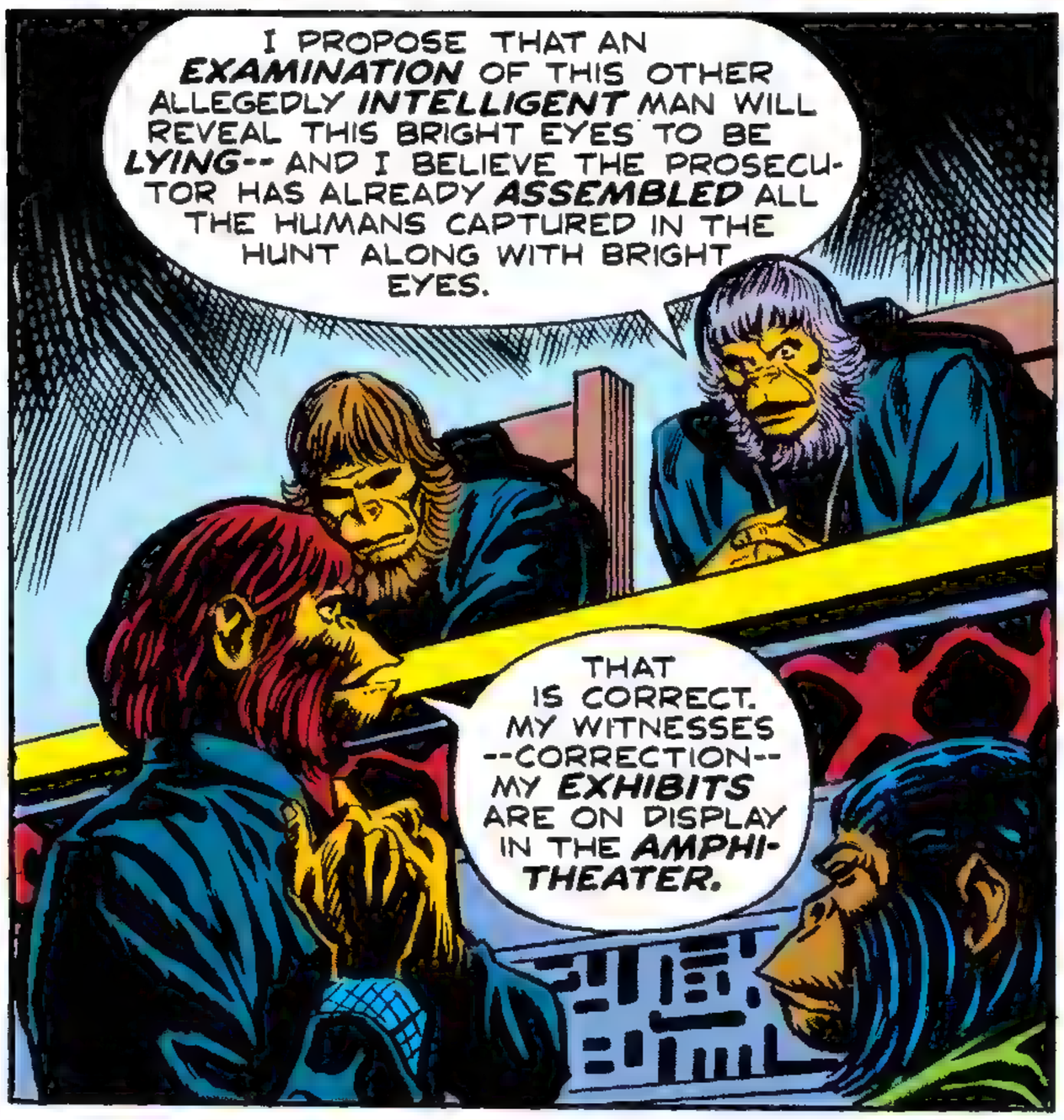
IS THE TRUTH, DR. ZIRA, WHAT I SEE HERE ON THIS DOCUMENT...?
...THAT A SHIP FROM OUTER SPACE CARRYING THIS MAN SANK IN AN INLAND SEA OF OUR EASTERN DESERT--?!

LIKE YOU, SIR, I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE.
YES...AND HOW CONVENIENT THAT PROOF OF HIS ARRIVAL HAS VANISHED.
BUT THIS DOCUMENT ALSO PURPORTS THAT BRIGHT EYES HAD TWO INTELLIGENT COMPANIONS AT THE TIME OF HIS CAPTURE. I WONDER WHERE THEY ARE NOW...?

ONE OF THEM IS IN YOUR STINKING MUSEUM!!

DR. ZIRA-- SILENCE THAT MAN AT ONCE!

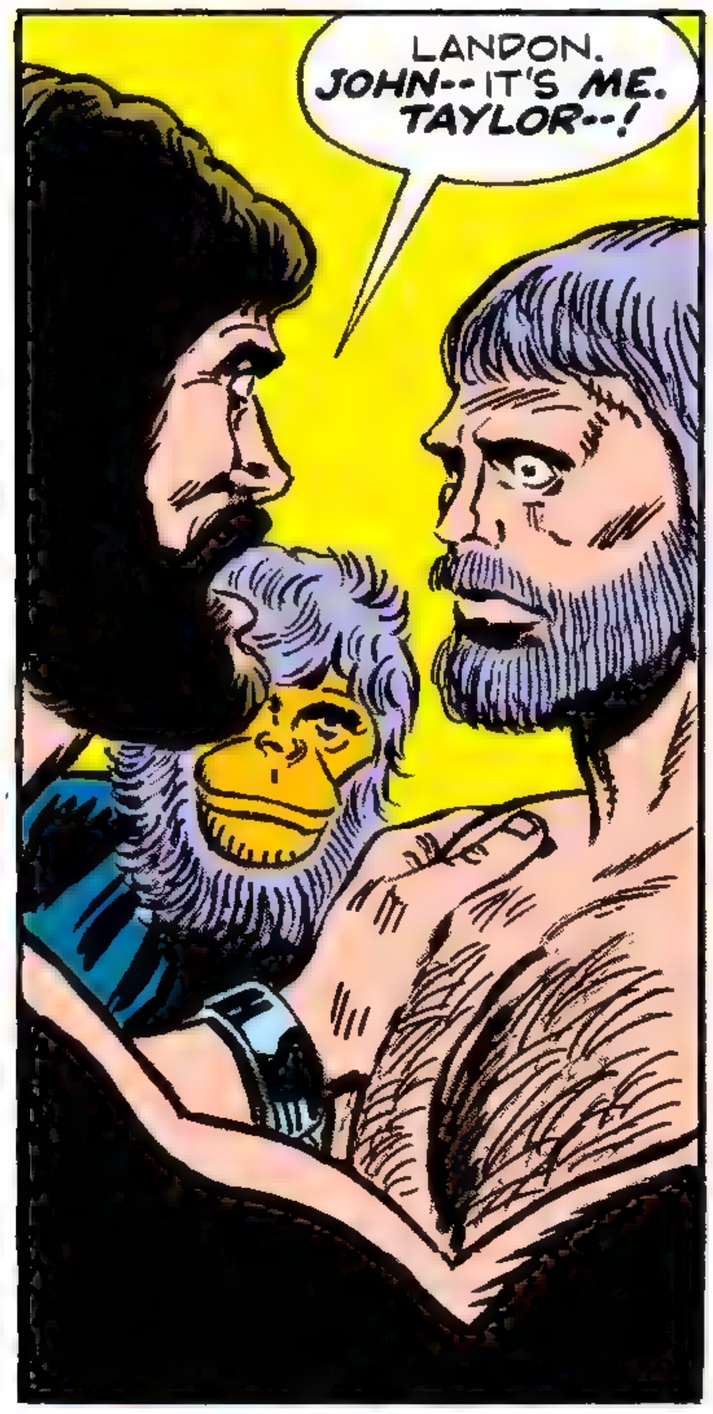

TAYLOR, PLEASE-- YOU'RE RUINING OUR CHANCES.
IN A MUSEUM-- HOW SAD. STUFFED AND MOUNTED, EH? DEAD MEN, LIKE SUNKEN SHIPS, TELL NO STORIES. BUT WHAT ABOUT HIS OTHER COMPANION?


I PROPOSE THAT AN EXAMINATION OF THIS OTHER ALLEGEDLY INTELLIGENT MAN WILL REVEAL THIS BRIGHT EYES TO BE LYING-- AND I BELIEVE THE PROSECUTOR HAS ALREADY ASSEMBLED ALL THE HUMANS CAPTURED IN THE HUNT ALONG WITH BRIGHT EYES.
THAT IS CORRECT. MY WITNESSES --CORRECTION-- MY EXHIBITS ARE ON DISPLAY IN THE AMPHITHEATER.

THEN I SUGGEST WE ADJOURN THERE AT ONCE.

WELL, BRIGHT EYES...? DO YOU ACKNOWLEDGE KINSHIP WITH ANY OF THESE CREATURES?
YES--! YES, I DO--!!

IDENTIFY HIM THEN. SPEAK TO HIM-- DEMONSTRATE HIS INTELLIGENCE.
LANDON--!

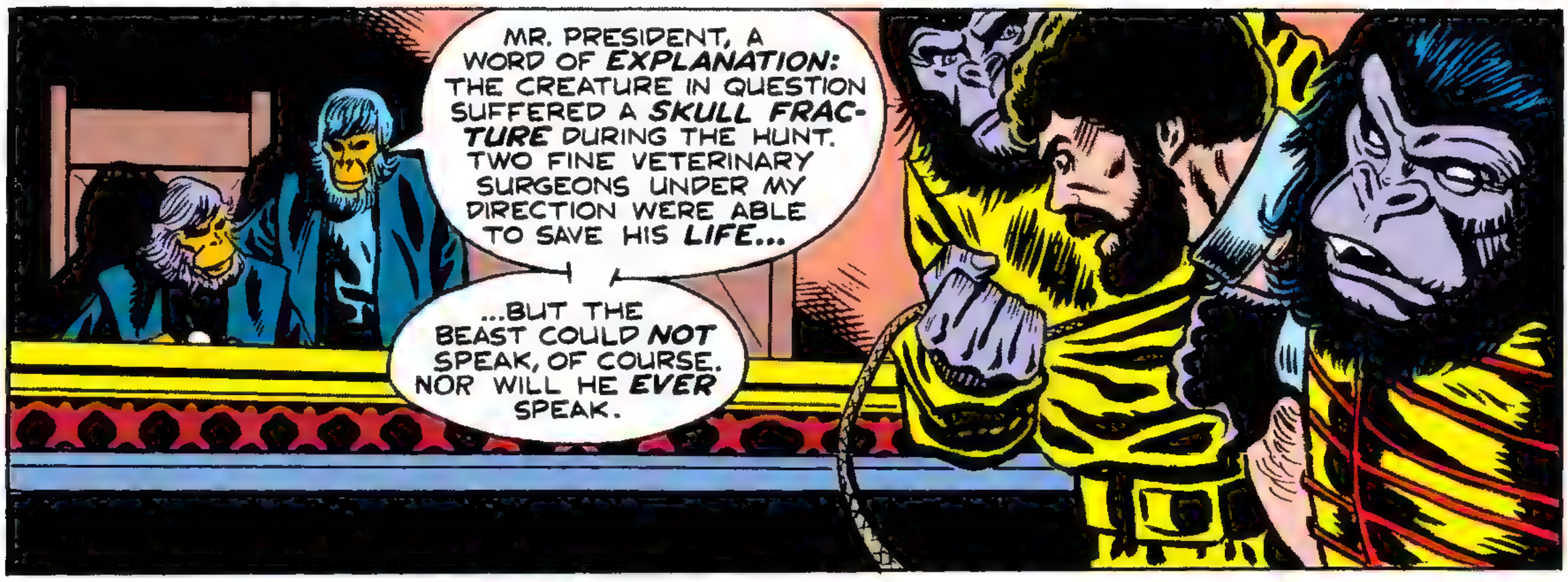

LANDON. JOHN-- IT'S ME. TAYLOR--!

LANDON...?

OH... MY... GOD.

YOU DID THIS, ZAIUS!! YOU'VE REMOVED HIS FRONTAL LOBES--!
YOU'VE TURNED HIM INTO A ZOMBIE!!

AGH!
SILENCE HIM, BAILIFF! TAKE HIM BACK INSIDE--!


MR. PRESIDENT, A WORD OF EXPLANATION: THE CREATURE IN QUESTION SUFFERED A SKULL FRACTURE DURING THE HUNT. TWO FINE VETERINARY SURGEONS UNDER MY DIRECTION WERE ABLE TO SAVE HIS LIFE...
...BUT THE BEAST COULD NOT SPEAK, OF COURSE. NOR WILL HE EVER SPEAK.

THAT'S A LIE-- YOU DESTROYED HIS MEMORY! HIS MIND!
AND YOU WANT TO DO THE SAME TO ME--!!

BAILIFF --STOP THIS OUTBURST!
GAG THE MONSTROSITY!
YOU BARBARIANS!

MAY IT PLEASE THE TRIBUNAL: I FOR ONE GRANT THAT THIS MAN CANNOT HAVE COME FROM ANOTHER PLANET. BUT I DO BELIEVE HE COMES FROM SOMEWHERE WITHIN THE FORBIDDEN ZONE.
HE HAS DESCRIBED THE REGION TO US, AND DESCRIBED IT ACCURATELY, FOR I HAVE BEEN THERE.

YOU VISITED THE FORBIDDEN ZONE?
HE EXCEEDED HIS ORDERS. HIS TRAVEL PERMIT WAS PROMPTLY REVOKED.

SO IT WAS-- THANKS TO YOU, DR. ZAIUS. BUT NOT BEFORE I DISCOVERED EVIDENCE OF A SIMIAN CULTURE WHICH EXISTED LONG BEFORE THE SACRED SCROLLS WERE WRITTEN--
OBJECTION--!

SUSTAINED.
YOUR ARCHEOLOGICAL THEORIES HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO BEARING ON THE DISPOSITION OF THIS CREATURE.

BUT OUR THEORIES DO HAVE A BEARING ON HIS IDENTITY.
HOW SO?

LET US ASSUME, AS COMMON SENSE DICTATES, THAT THE PRISONER'S STORY IS FALSE. BUT IF HE DOES NOT COME FROM ANOTHER PLANET, THEN SURELY HE SPRANG FROM OUR OWN.
AS AN ANIMAL PSYCHOLOGIST I HAVE FOUND NO PHYSIOLOGICAL DEFECT TO EXPLAIN WHY HUMANS ARE MUTE.

OBJECTION!
SUSTAINED.

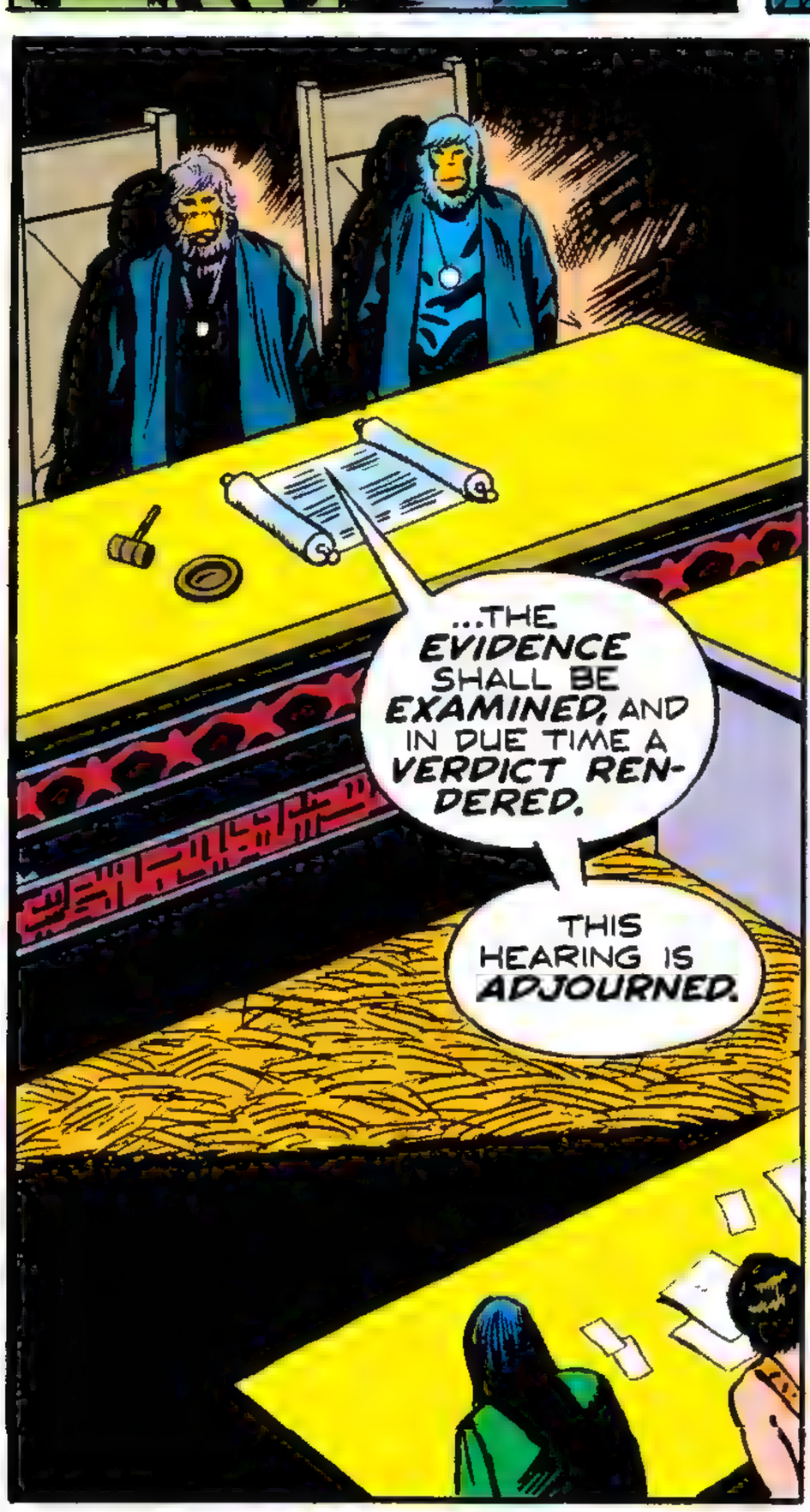
THEIR SPEECH ORGANS ARE ADEQUATE-- THE FLAW LIES NOT IN ANATOMY BUT IN THE BRAIN!

OBJECTION!
SUSTAINED!
SUSTAIN ALL THE OBJECTIONS YOU WANT, BUT FACE THE TRUTH!

YES! BEHOLD THIS MARVEL, THIS LIVING PARADOX-- THIS MISSING LINK IN AN EVOLUTIONARY CHAIN!!
SILENCE! YOU HAVE GONE TOO FAR!!

THERE YOU ARE, MR. PRESIDENT. I WARNED YOU THESE TWO WOULD USE THE HEARING AS A FORUM FOR THEIR SUBVERSION.
IT WOULD SEEM CLEAR TO ME THAT AN INDICTMENT IS IN ORDER...

YES, SIR-- THE STATE AGREES, AND CHARGES DOCTORS ZIRA AND CORNELIUS WITH CONTEMPT OF THIS TRIBUNAL, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF, AND SCIENTIFIC HERESY!
BE IT SO ORDERED...

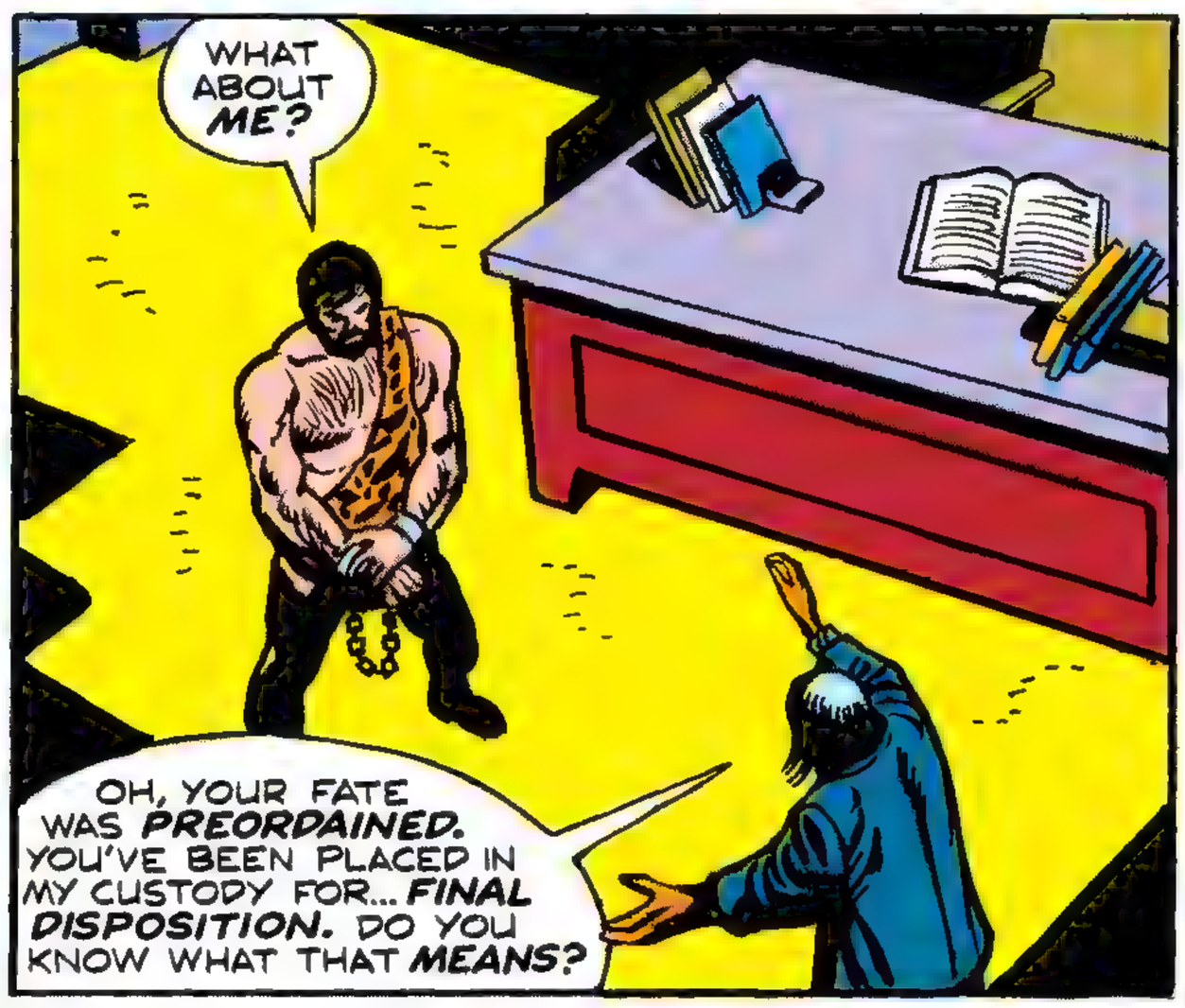

...THE EVIDENCE SHALL BE EXAMINED, AND IN DUE TIME A VERDICT RENDERED.
THIS HEARING IS ADJOURNED.

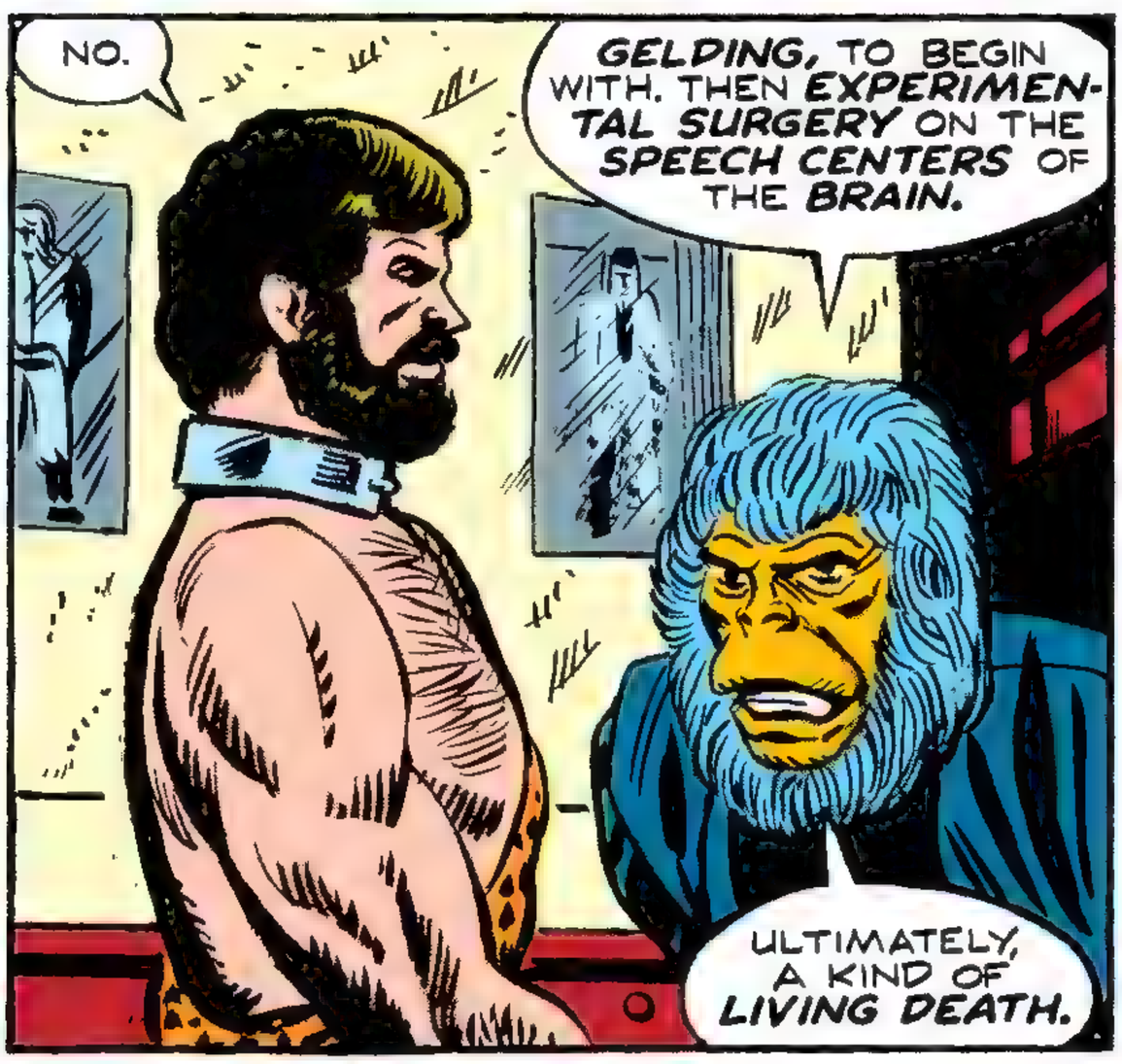
NIGHT, AND DR. ZAIUS AWAITS THE RESULTS OF THE ORDERS HE HAS DISPATCHED...
NOK NOK
COME IN.

THE HUMAN YOU ORDERED DR. ZAIUS.
VERY GOOD. WAIT OUTSIDE.

THE VERDICT IS IN. AT THE MOMENT YOUR SIMIAN FRIENDS-- AND SPONSORS-- ARE FREE ON BAIL...
BUT THEY'LL SOON BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL...

...FOR HERESY.
YOU SEE, YOU PERFORMED A SERVICE FOR THE STATE--YOUR HEARING MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO EXPOSE ZIRA AND CORNELIUS.

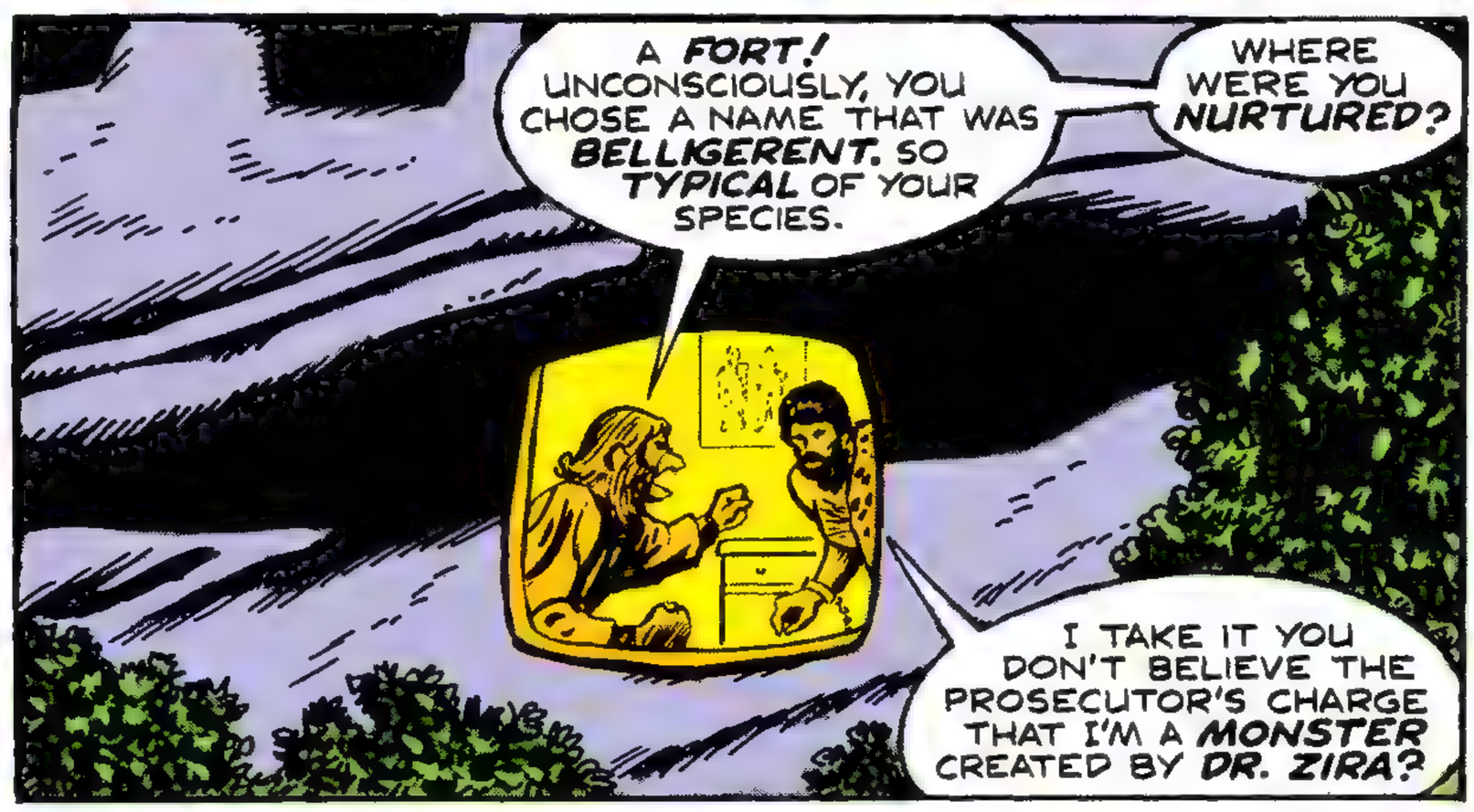

WHAT ABOUT ME?
OH, YOUR FATE WAS PREORDAINED. YOU'VE BEEN PLACED IN MY CUSTODY FOR... FINAL DISPOSITION. DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS?

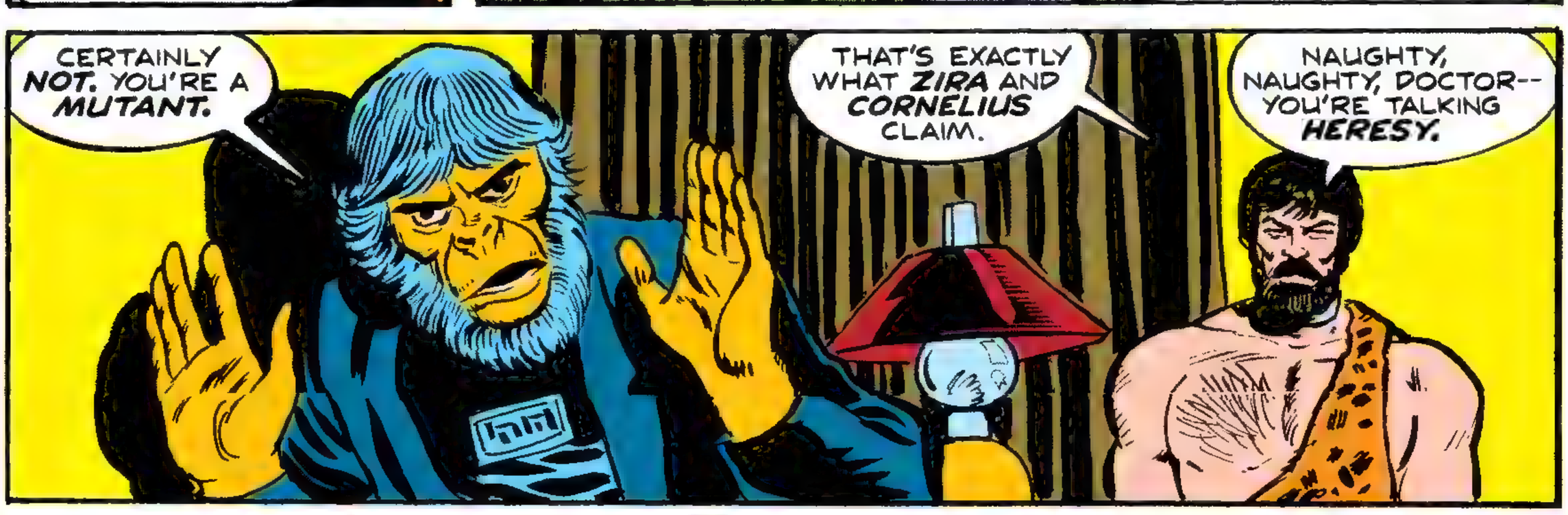

NO.
GELDING, TO BEGIN WITH. THEN EXPERIMENTAL SURGERY ON THE SPEECH CENTERS OF THE BRAIN.
ULTIMATELY, A KIND OF LIVING DEATH.

HOWEVER... IT IS WITHIN MY POWER TO GRANT YOU A REPRIEVE. THAT'S WHY I SUMMONED YOU HERE TONIGHT.
NOW TELL ME WHO AND WHAT YOU REALLY ARE AND WHERE YOU COME FROM, AND NO VETERINARIAN WILL TOUCH YOU.

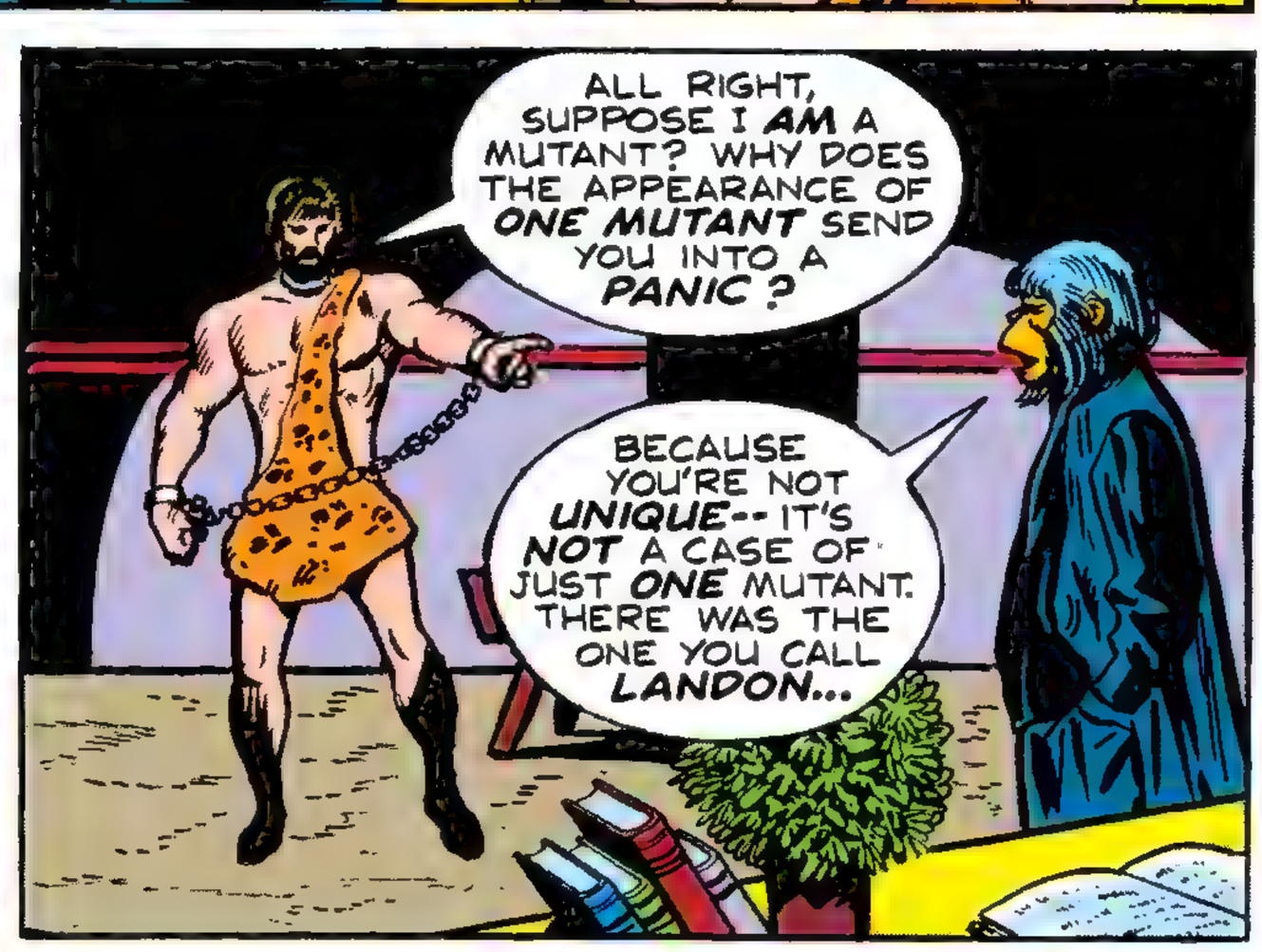
I TOLD YOU THE TRUTH AT THAT "HEARING" OF YOURS.
YOU LIED. WHERE IS YOUR TRIBE?
MY TRIBE, AS YOU CALL IT LIVES ON ANOTHER PLANET IN A DISTANT SOLAR SYSTEM.

THEN HOW IS IT WE SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE?
EVEN IN YOUR LIES, SOME TRUTH SLIPS THROUGH! THAT MYTHICAL COMMUNITY YOU PROFESS TO COME FROM --FORT WAYNE...?
WHAT ABOUT IT?

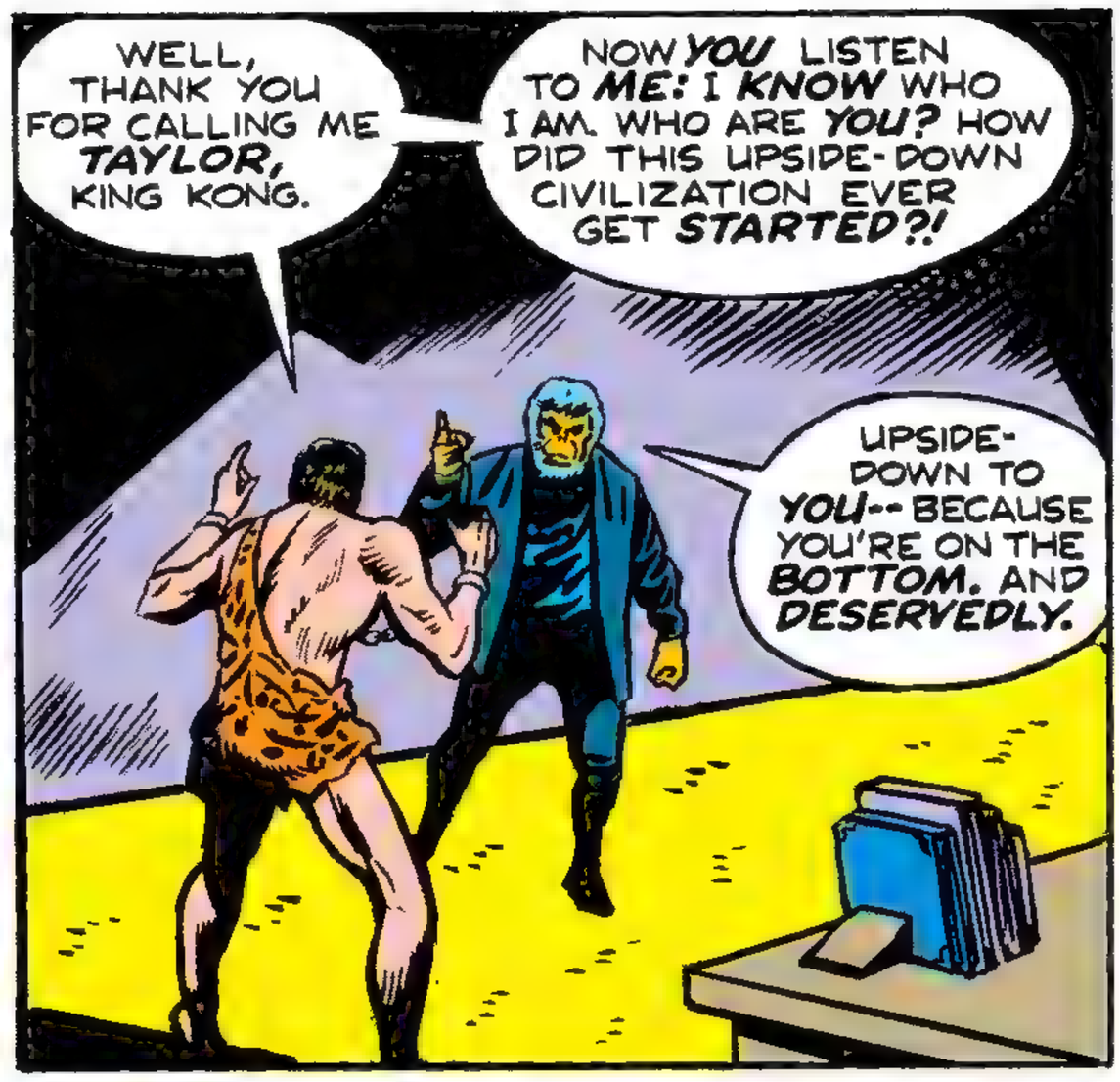

A FORT! UNCONSCIOUSLY, YOU CHOSE A NAME THAT WAS BELLIGERENT. SO TYPICAL OF YOUR SPECIES.
WHERE WERE YOU NURTURED?
I TAKE IT YOU DON'T BELIEVE THE PROSECUTOR'S CHARGE THAT I'M A MONSTER CREATED BY DR. ZIRA?


CERTAINLY NOT. YOU'RE A MUTANT.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT ZIRA AND CORNELIUS CLAIM.
NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY, DOCTOR-- YOU'RE TALKING HERESY.

OF COURSE.


ALL RIGHT, SUPPOSE I AM A MUTANT? WHY DOES THE APPEARANCE OF ONE MUTANT SEND YOU INTO A PANIC?
BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT UNIQUE-- IT'S NOT A CASE OF JUST ONE MUTANT. THERE WAS THE ONE YOU CALL LANDON...

THEN YOU ADMIT--
I ADMIT THAT WHERE THERE'S ONE MUTANT, THERE'S PROBABLY ANOTHER. AND ANOTHER. A NEST OF THEM. WHERE'S YOUR NEST, TAYLOR? WHERE ARE YOUR WOMEN?


WELL, THANK YOU FOR CALLING ME TAYLOR, KING KONG.
NOW YOU LISTEN TO ME: I KNOW WHO I AM. WHO ARE YOU? HOW DID THIS UPSIDE-DOWN CIVILIZATION EVER GET STARTED?!
UPSIDE-DOWN TO YOU-- BECAUSE YOU'RE ON THE BOTTOM. AND DESERVEDLY.

NOW TELL ME-- IS THERE ANOTHER JUNGLE SUPPORTING LIFE BEYOND THE FORBIDDEN ZONE?
I... DON'T... KNOW!
DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME TRYING TO PROTECT OTHERS OF YOUR KIND. IT WILL COST YOU YOUR VERY IDENTITY ...TAYLOR.

I'M NOT PROTECTING ANYBODY! THAT HEARING WAS A FARCE. WHAT THE BLAZES HAVE I DONE?!!
YOU'RE A MENACE! A WALKING PESTILENCE! I DO KNOW WHO YOU ARE, TAYLOR--I KNOW ONLY TOO WELL.

AND I KNOW THAT OTHERS OF YOUR KIND MUST INHABIT THE FORBIDDEN ZONE!
SO YOU HAVE JUST SIX HOURS TO MAKE A FULL CONFESSION. AFTER THAT, I'LL EMPLOY SURGERY TO OBTAIN ONE!!

PHTHOO

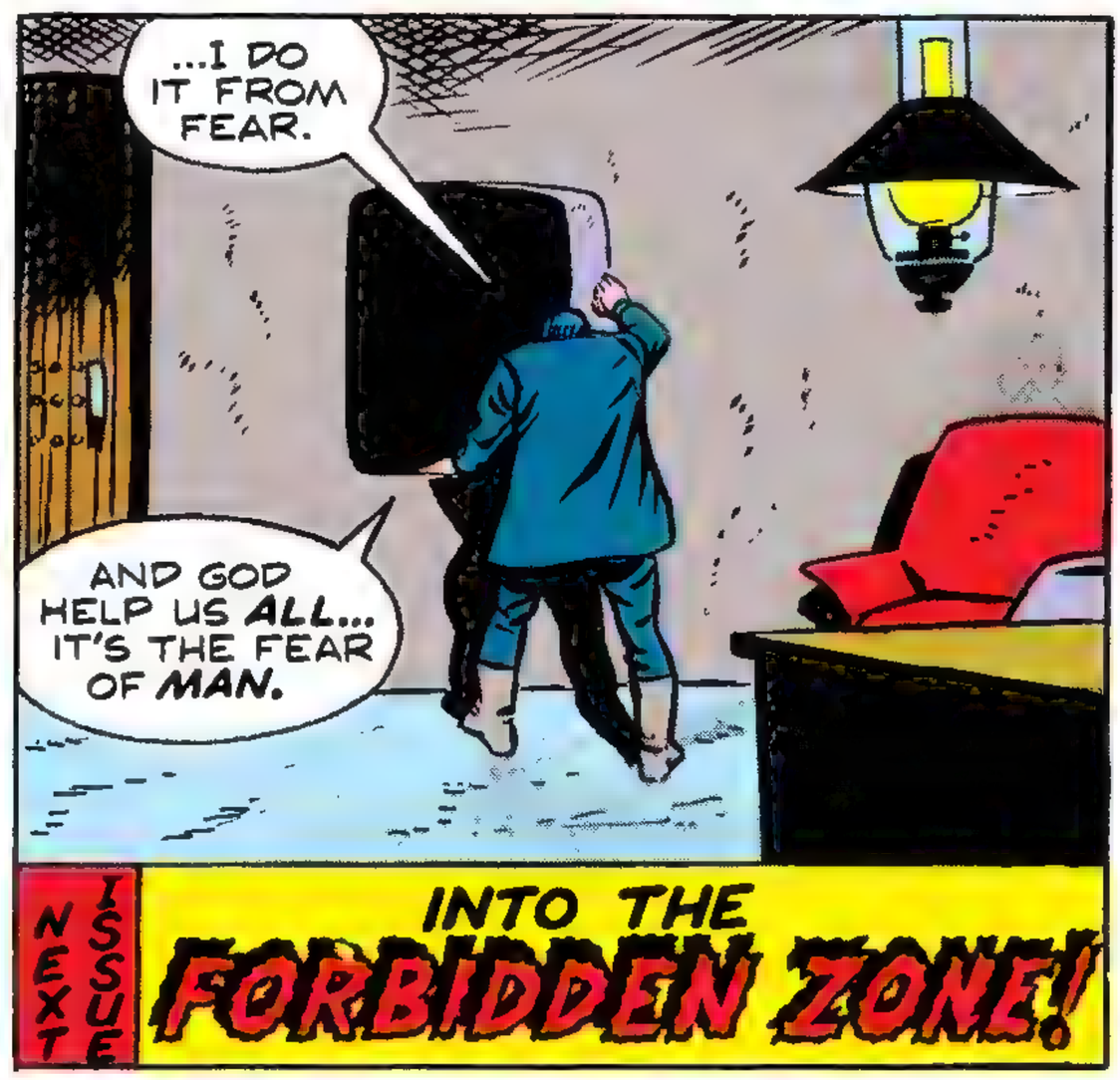
GUARDS--!

TAKE THIS... CREATURE... BACK TO HIS CAGE.

AND IF HE TRIES TO ESCAPE, BEAT HIM TO WITHIN AN INCH OF HIS LIFE...
...BUT NOT AN INCH FARTHER... UNTIL I'M THERE TO WITNESS IT.

ALL RIGHT, ZAIUS, YOU CAN CUT ME TO PIECES IF YOU WANT TO! IT'S WITHIN YOUR POWER!
BUT KNOW THIS, ZAIUS -- YOU DO IT BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID OF ME! YOU DO IT FROM FEAR!!

YES, TAYLOR...


...I DO IT FROM FEAR.
AND GOD HELP US ALL... IT'S THE FEAR OF MAN.
NEXT ISSUE
INTO THE FORBIDDEN ZONE!

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ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
DR. ZAIUS-- THE HUMANS HAVE LEARNED OUR MOST CLOSELY-GUARDED SECRET!
THEN OPEN FIRE, SOLDIERS!
THEY MUST NOT BE PERMITTED TO LEAVE HERE ALIVE!
BUCKLER, JANSON.
FURY IN THE FORBIDDEN ZONE!

STAN LEE PRESENTS PLANET OF THE APES!™

INTO THE FORBIDDEN ZONE

WRITER: DOUG MOENCH
PENCILER: GEORGE TUSKA
INKERS: M. ESPOSITO, T. MORTELLARO
COLORIST: GEORGE ROUSSOS

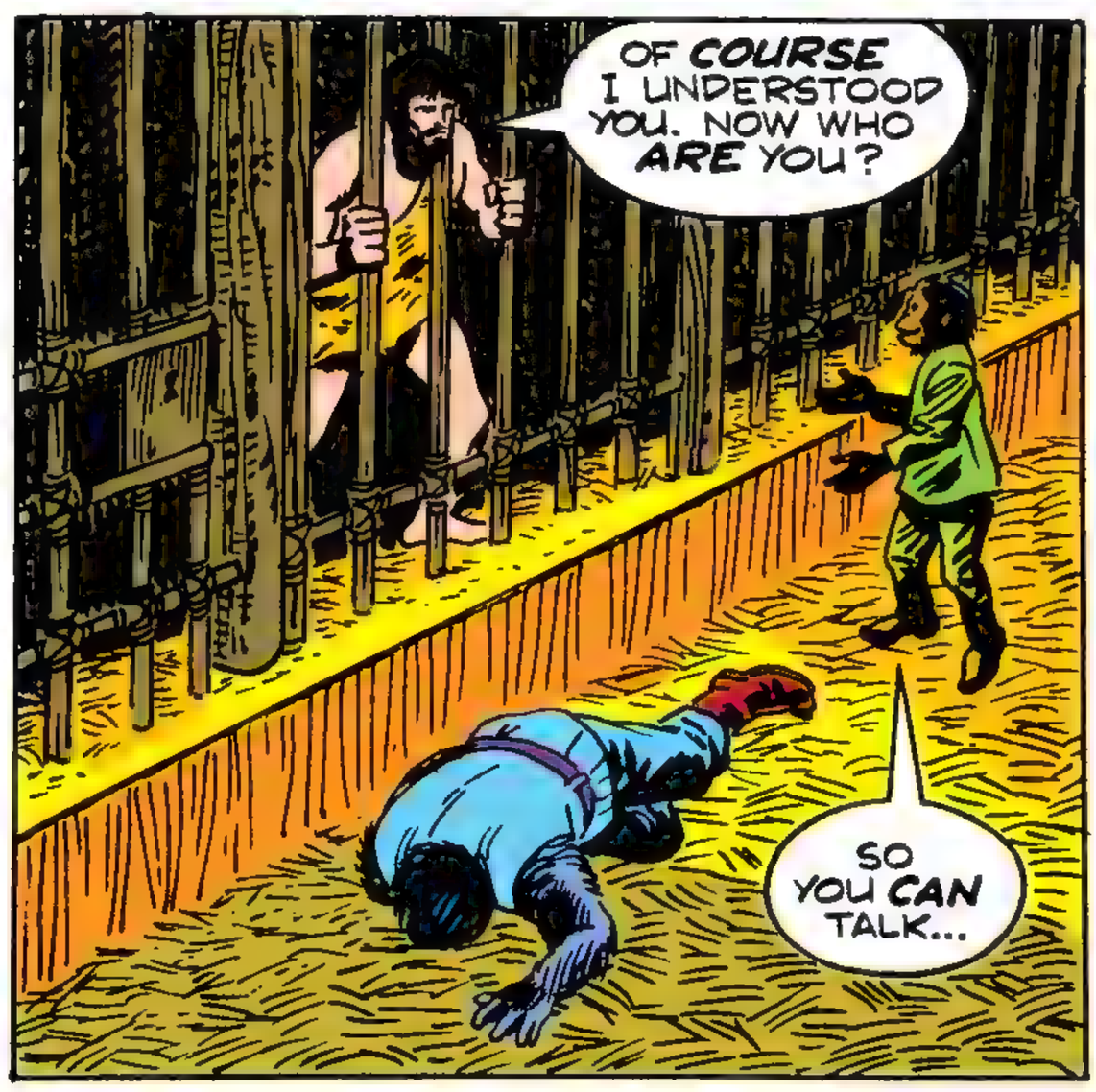
ARE YOU JULIUS?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
I'M FROM THE OFFICE OF ANIMAL AFFAIRS. THE MALE HUMAN IS TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE ZOO.

RIGHT HERE... ALTHOUGH I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU'LL EVEN BE ABLE TO SEE THEM IN THIS GLOOM.
DON'T WORRY YOURSELF. THERE'S A SHAFT OF LIGHT OVER THERE.

THIS ORDER'S NO GOOD.
IT MUST BE COUNTER-SIGNED BY DR. ZAIUS AND--

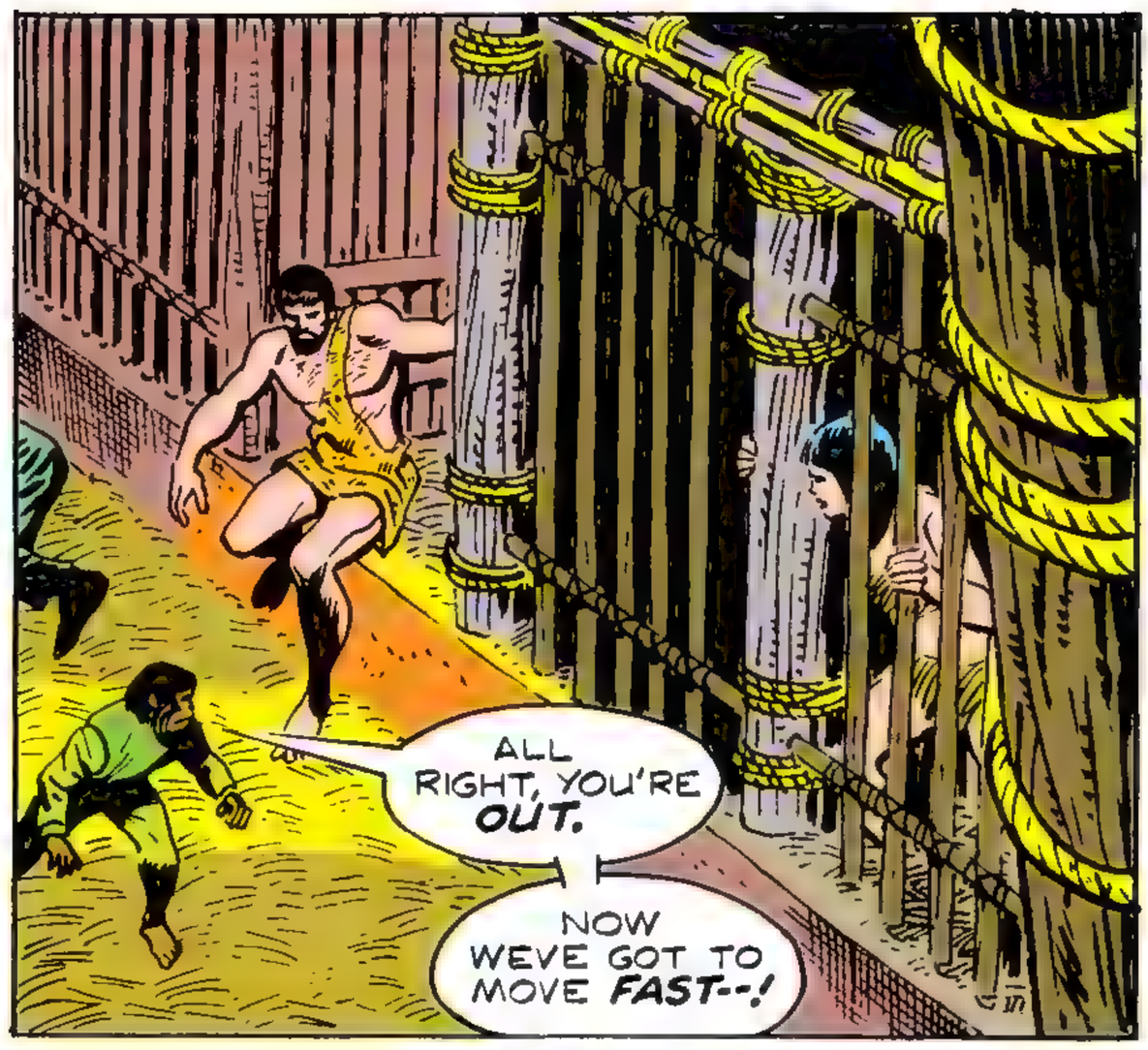
HIT HIM!

KLUP!
YOU DID IT--YOU UNDERSTOOD ME!


OF COURSE I UNDERSTOOD YOU. NOW WHO ARE YOU?
SO YOU CAN TALK...

...AND THIS ABDUCTION WAS HER IDEA. BUT YOU'RE NOT REALLY GOING TO THE ZOO-- THAT'S JUST OUR COVER STORY IN CASE WE'RE STOPPED.
I ALMOST DIDN'T BELIEVE IT WHEN ZIRA TOLD ME. I'M HER NEPHEW, BY THE WAY...

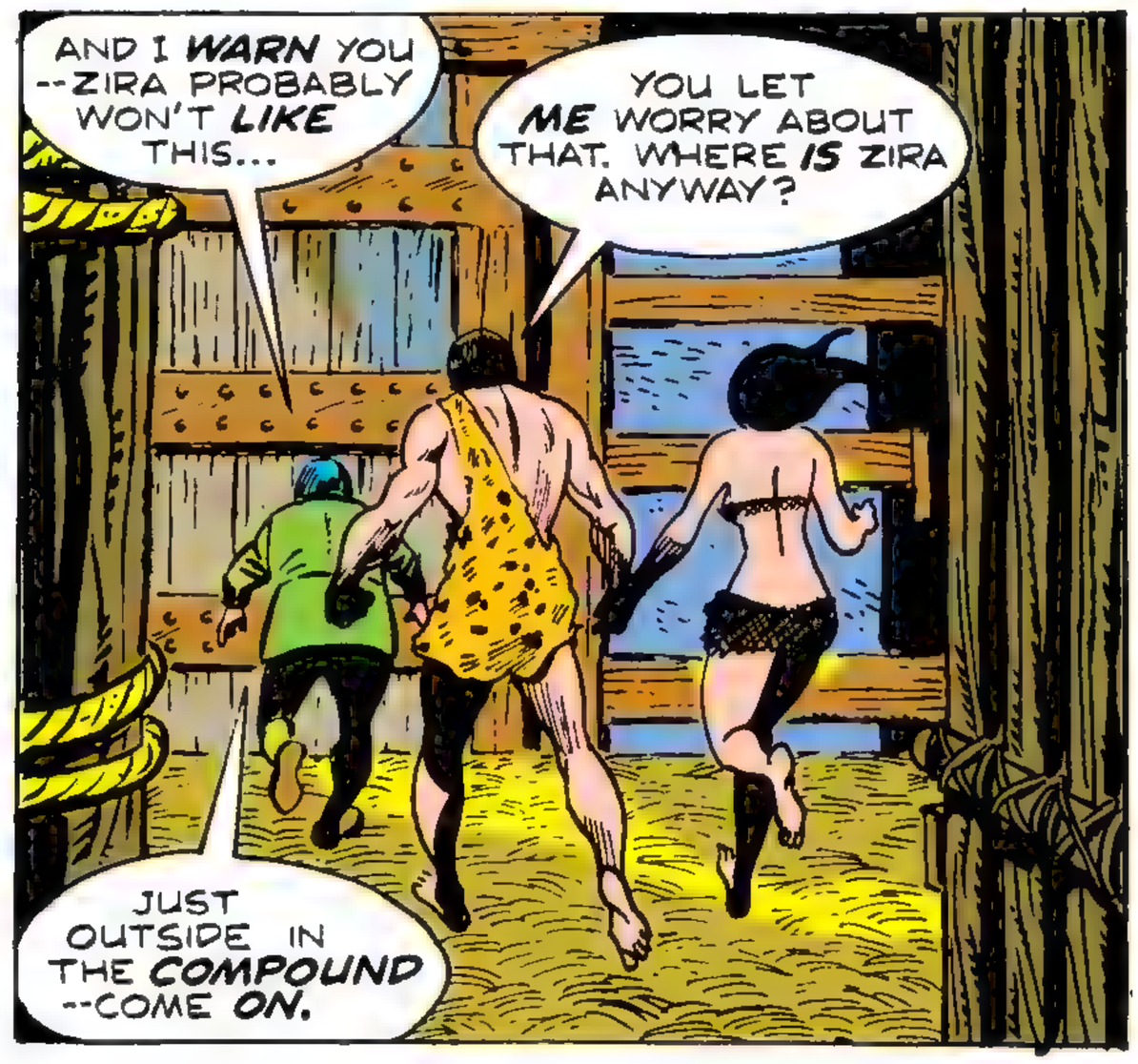
ALTHOUGH I DO FEEL THAT IF IT EVER CAME DOWN TO THE QUESTION OF WHETHER SOMETHING LIKE YOU SHOULD BE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROPERTY--
COME ON. GET ME OUT OF HERE AND SAVE THE POLITICAL DISCUSSION FOR LATER.

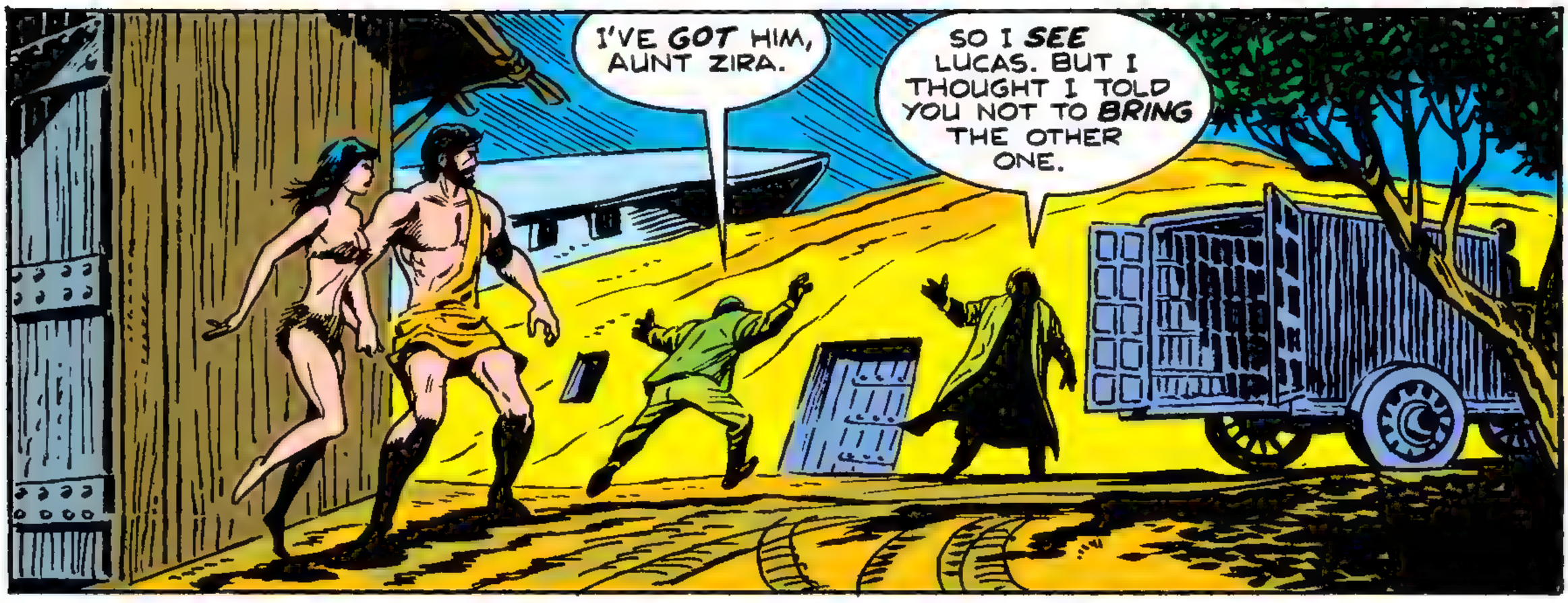

ALL RIGHT, YOU'RE OUT.
NOW WEVE GOT TO MOVE FAST--!

YES...

...BUT FIRST-- SHE COMES ALONG TOO.
ZIRA DOESN'T WANT YOUR FEMALE.
WELL I DO!

IF YOU INSIST. BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW I'M NOT GOING TO TAKE ANY ORDERS FROM--
FINE. JUST LET HER OUT.


AND I WARN YOU --ZIRA PROBABLY WON'T LIKE THIS...
YOU LET ME WORRY ABOUT THAT. WHERE IS ZIRA ANYWAY?
JUST OUTSIDE IN THE COMPOUND --COME ON.

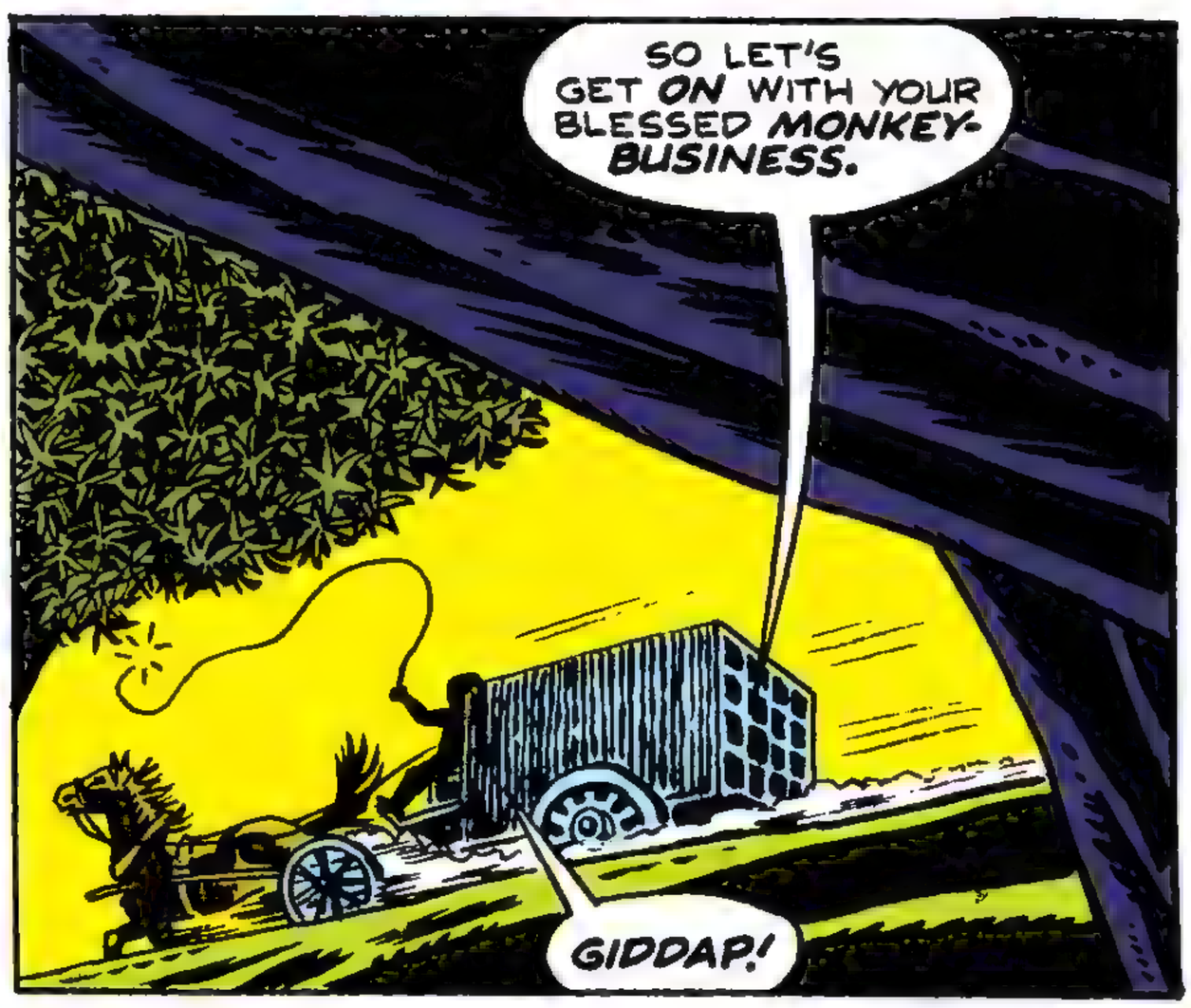

I'VE GOT HIM, AUNT ZIRA.
SO I SEE LUCAS. BUT I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU NOT TO BRING THE OTHER ONE.

HE WOULDN'T LEAVE HER.
OH, ALL RIGHT.
GET IN THE WAGON, TAYLOR--AND HURRY.

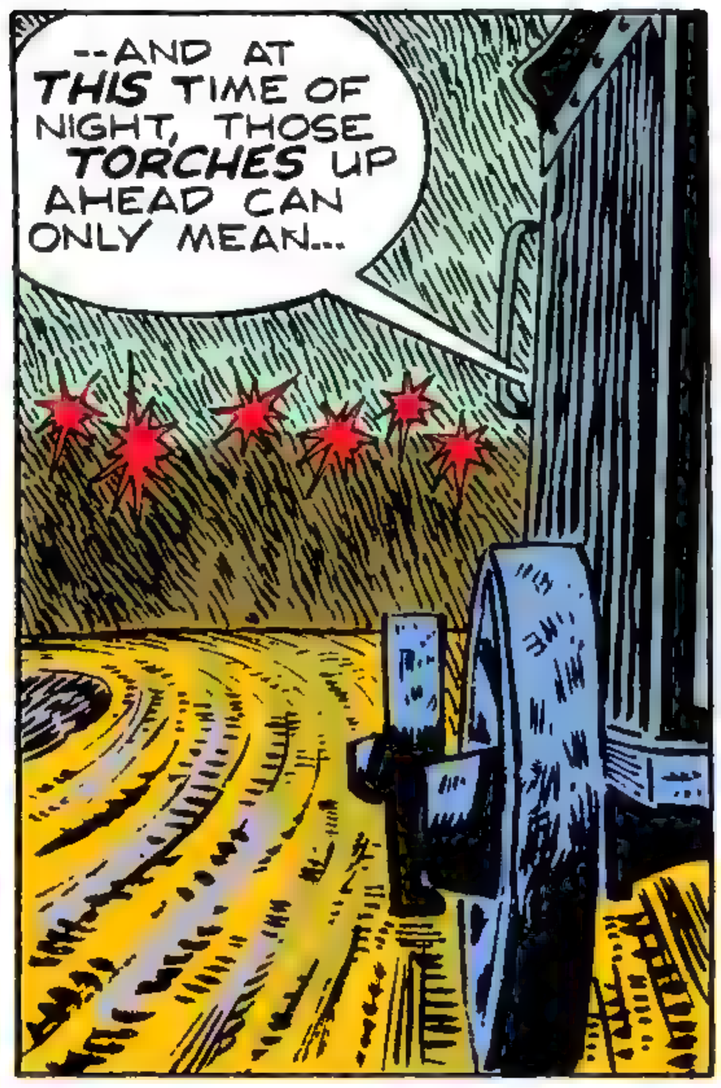
NOW, LISTEN, ZIRA--
TAYLOR, JUST SHUT UP AND WE MAY GET AWAY WITH THIS. REMEMBER THAT ALL MEN LOOK ALIKE TO MOST APES...
SO JUST SWALLOW YOUR PRIDE AND GET IN THE WAGON. IT WON'T KILL YOU TO ACT LIKE AN ANIMAL UNTIL WE'RE SAFE.

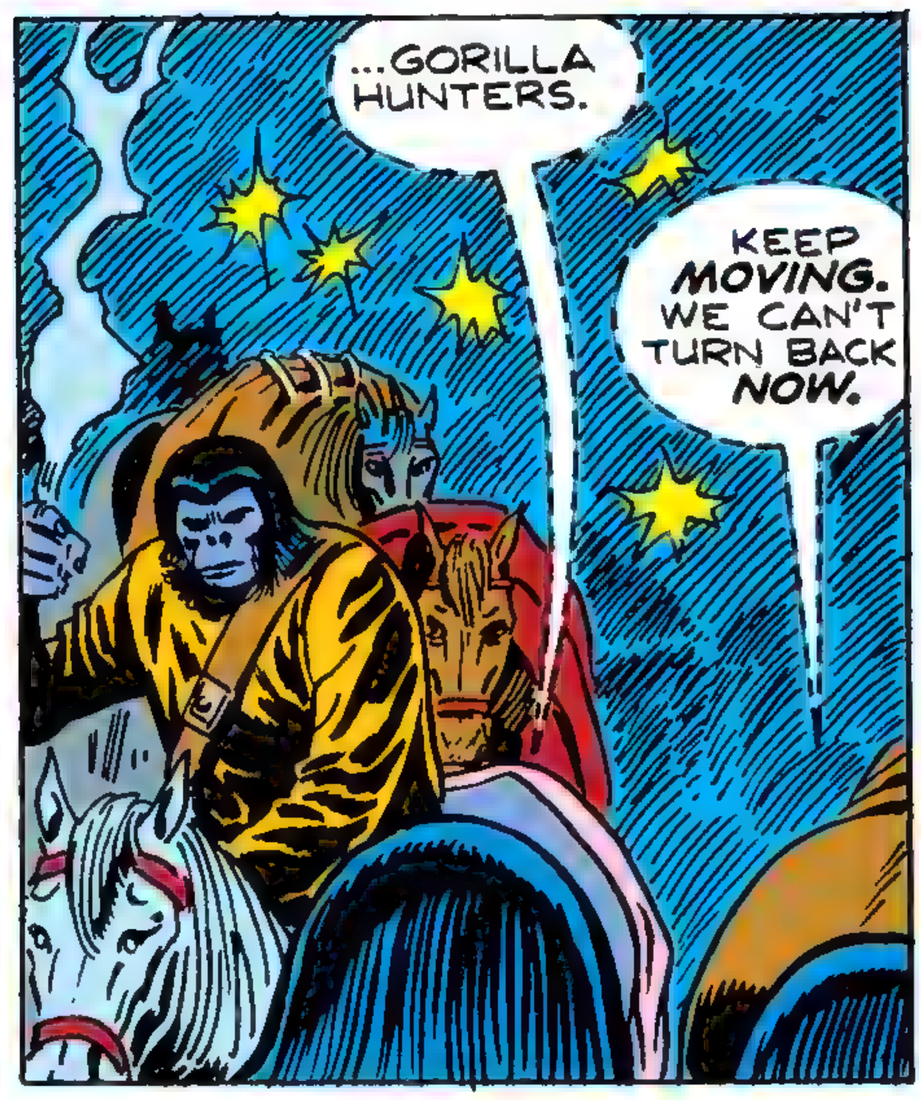
I GUESS IT WON'T AT THAT, ZIRA...

...BECAUSE IT CERTAINLY HASN'T HURT YOU TO ACT LIKE A HUMAN.


SO LET'S GET ON WITH YOUR BLESSED MONKEY-BUSINESS.
GIDDAP!

I DON'T LIKE THIS, ZIRA. TO GET OUT OF THE CITY, WE'VE GOT TO CROSS THE CAUSEWAY--


--AND AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT, THOSE TORCHES UP AHEAD CAN ONLY MEAN...

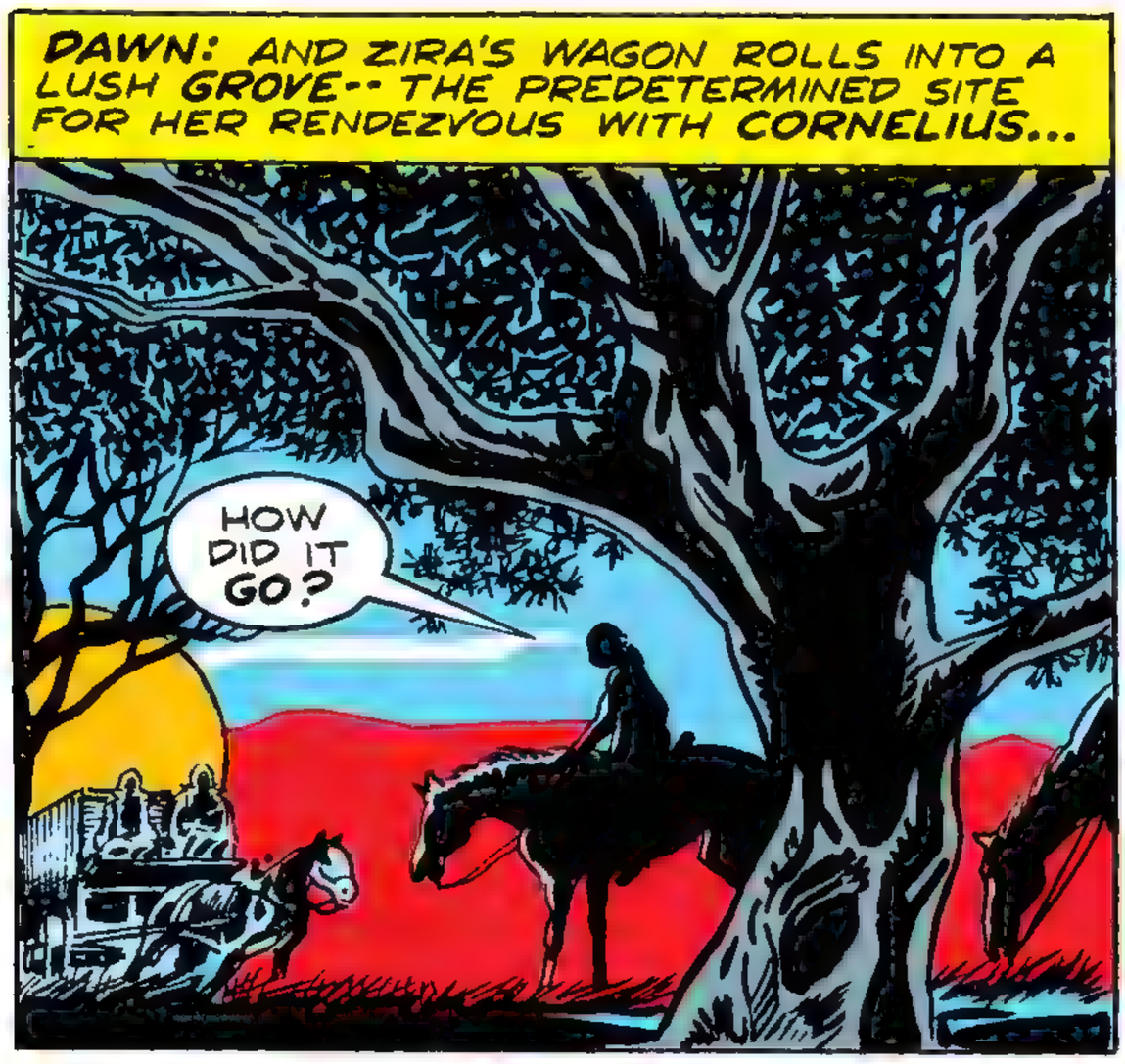

...GORILLA HUNTERS.
KEEP MOVING. WE CAN'T TURN BACK NOW.

UH-OH. LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE SPOILING FOR TROUBLE, ZIRA.
HOLD IT!

AH, DR. ZIRA! AS YOU CAN SEE, OUR HUNTING WAGON BROKE DOWN. I'M AFRAID WE'LL HAVE TO COMMANDEER YOURS.
YOU CAN'T. I HAVE TWO SICK HUMANS IN THE WAGON. WE'RE TAKING THEM TO THE CHIEF VET AT THE ZOO...

WELL, THAT'S A COINCIDENCE. WE BAGGED TWO LIVE ONES TODAY ALSO. AND SINCE OUR WAGON IS DISABLED, I'LL HAVE TO ASK YOU TO TAKE THEM WITH YOU TO THE ZOO.
NO. NO-- MY ANIMALS ARE DISEASED--!

GIVE 'EM A TASTE OF FIRE!
LEAVE THEM ALONE! THEY'RE DISEASED, I TELL YOU!
THAT'S RIGHT-- THEY'RE DANGEROUS!
A HUMAN-- DANGEROUS? DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH! HOW COULD THEY BE DANGEROUS?
THEY'RE RABID! THEIR BITE IS FATAL!
YOU SERIOUS?
YES--!
YOU WOULD DIE IN AGONY --FROTHING AT THE MOUTH!
VERY WELL... YOU MAY PASS ON...
THEY TREAT THOSE ANIMALS BETTER THAN THEY TREAT US.
YEAH... AND I STILL SAY--
--THE ONLY GOOD HUMAN IS A DEAD HUMAN.

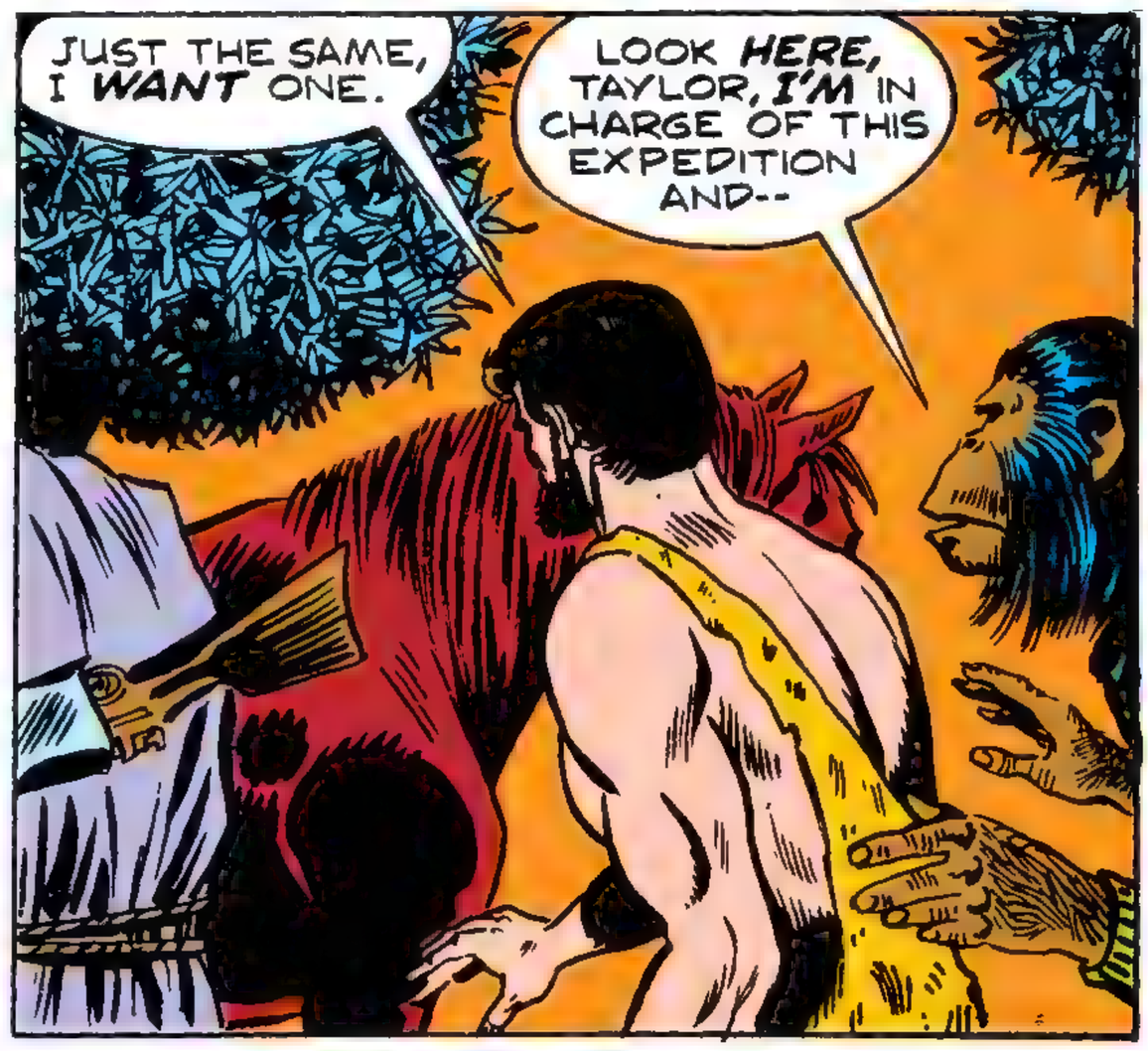

DAWN: AND ZIRA'S WAGON ROLLS INTO A LUSH GROVE-- THE PREDETERMINED SITE FOR HER RENDEZVOUS WITH CORNELIUS...
HOW DID IT GO?

THERE WAS ONE BAD MOMENT --WHEN SOME HUNTERS STOPPED US.
YES, BUT I CLEVERLY MANAGED TO PURSUADE THEM THAT OUR BEASTS HAD RABIES--THAT SENT THEM RUNNING!

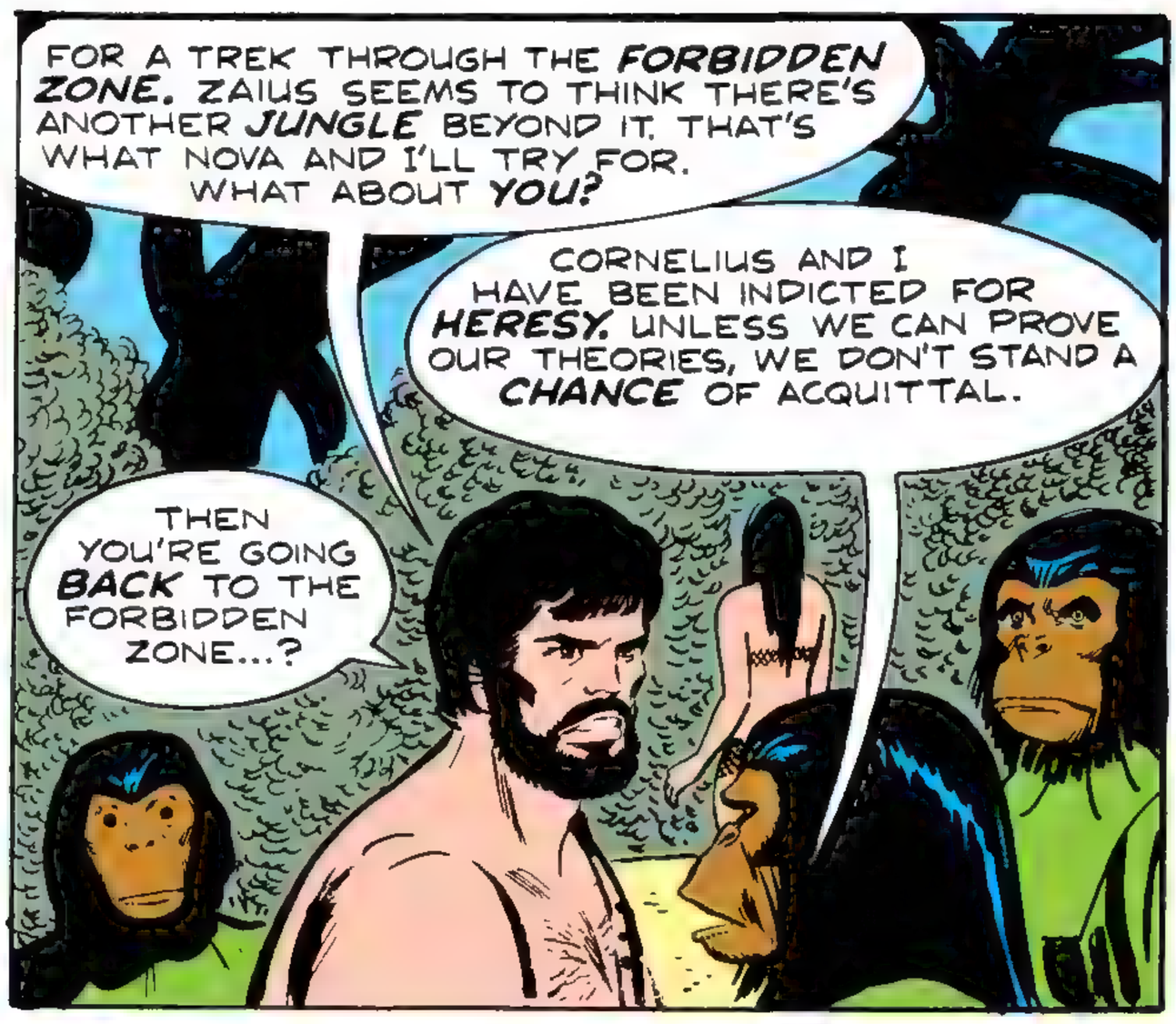
LUCIUS-- HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU NOT TO BOAST LIKE THAT?
OH, LET THE LAD BASK IN HIS ACCOMPLISHMENT, ZIRA. IT MUST HAVE BEEN AN EXCITING EXPERIENCE FOR HIM TO--

GET US OUT OF HERE!!
OH MY --I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN...
LUCIUS, OPEN THE TAIL-GATE FOR TAYLOR AND HIS MATE.

WELL, TAYLOR --WE'RE ALL FUGITIVES NOW.
DO YOU HAVE ANY WEAPONS?
THE BEST. BUT WE WON'T NEED THEM...


JUST THE SAME, I WANT ONE.
LOOK HERE, TAYLOR, I'M IN CHARGE OF THIS EXPEDITION AND--

THAT'S FAIR ENOUGH. BUT YOU'RE NO LONGER IN CHARGE OF ME. AND I DON'T MEAN TO BE CAPTURED AGAIN.
AS YOU WISH ... BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU THINK YOU'LL NEED A WEAPON FOR.


FOR A TREK THROUGH THE FORBIDDEN ZONE. ZAIUS SEEMS TO THINK THERE'S ANOTHER JUNGLE BEYOND IT. THAT'S WHAT NOVA AND I'LL TRY FOR. WHAT ABOUT YOU?
CORNELIUS AND I HAVE BEEN INDICTED FOR HERESY. UNLESS WE CAN PROVE OUR THEORIES, WE DON'T STAND A CHANCE OF ACQUITTAL.
THEN YOU'RE GOING BACK TO THE FORBIDDEN ZONE...?

YES-- TO THE DIGGINGS I WORKED AT A YEAR AGO. IT'S A TWO-DAY RIDE ACROSS THE EASTERN DESERT, NEAR WHERE YOU CLAIM YOU LANDED FROM THAT PLANET OF YOURS.
YOU STILL DON'T BELIEVE ME, DO YOU?
IT'S A LONG DETOUR TO THAT LAKE YOU SAY YOU CRASHED INTO. IF WE WENT THERE, WHAT PROOF WOULD WE FIND?

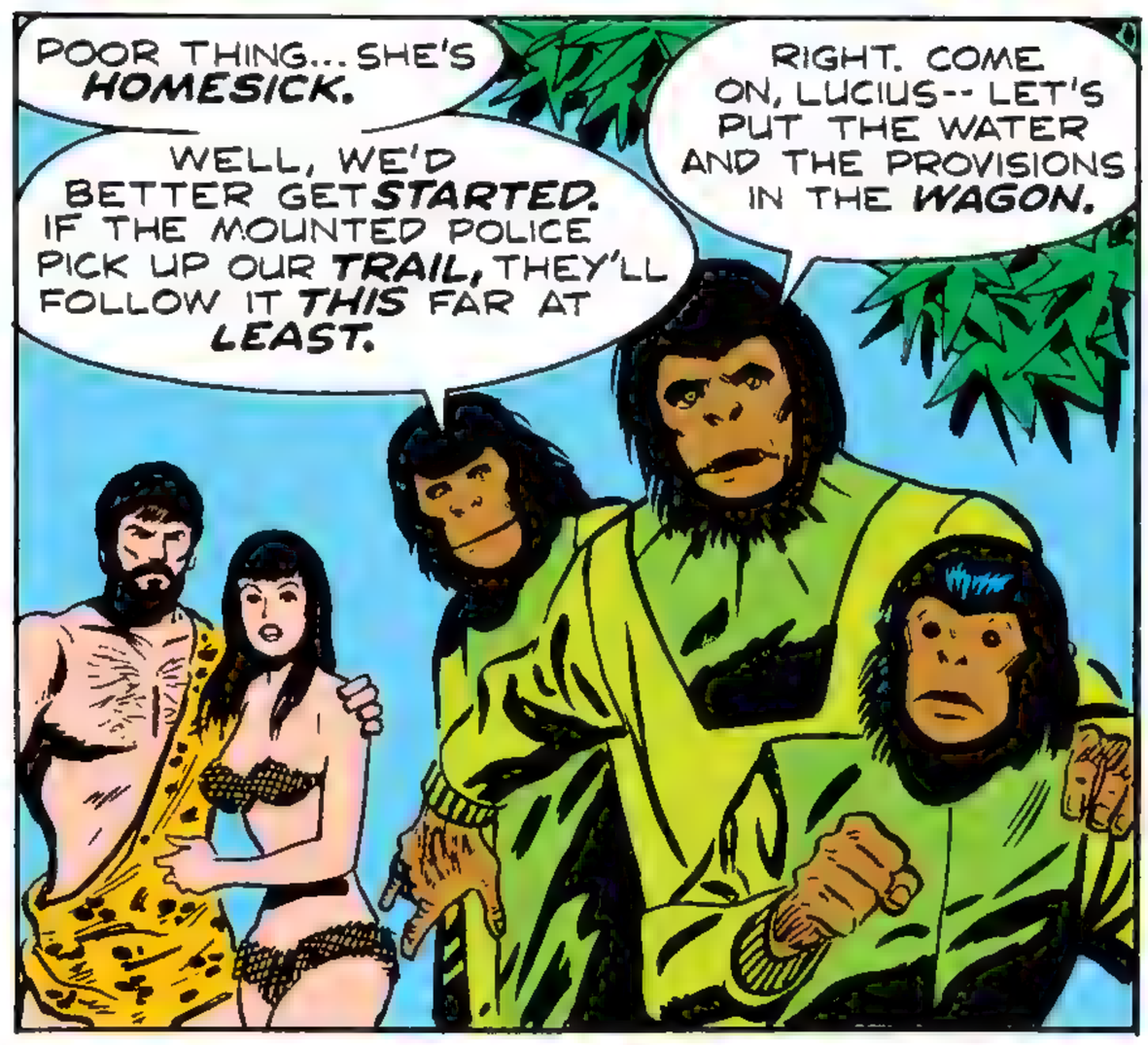
NOTHING MUCH. THE REMNANTS OF A LIFE RAFT. MAYBE A PITIFULLY SMALL FLAG...
...THE PRECIOUS EMBLEM OF MY COUNTRYMEN.

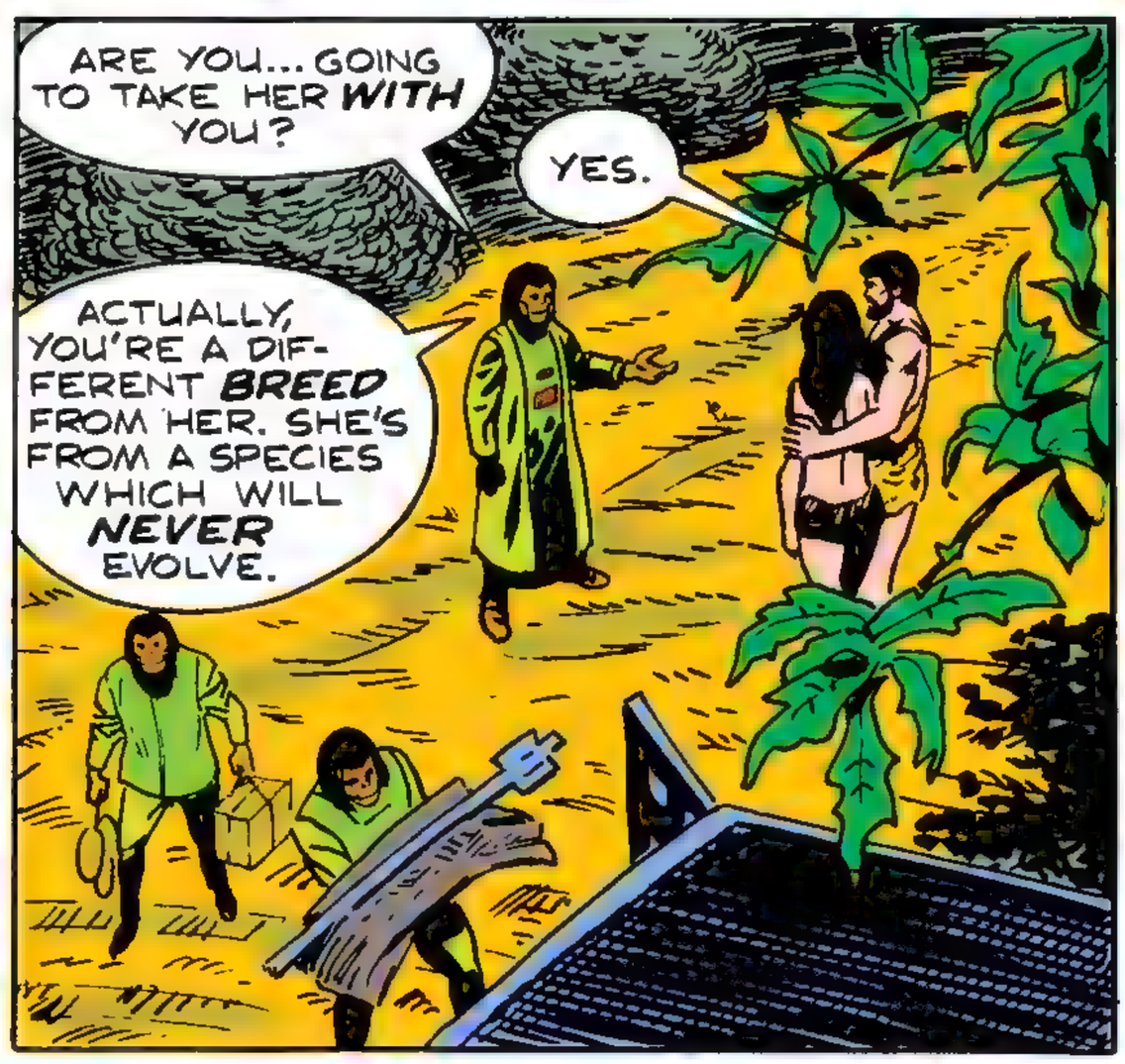
SORRY TAYLOR. THE TERRAIN AROUND THAT LAKE IS POISONOUS. THERE'S NO FRESH WATER, NO VEGETATION-- NOTHING.
I KNOW...

NEVERTHELESS, I THANK YOU FOR SAVING US. YOU'LL BE IN TROUBLE FOR IT.
WE'VE BEEN IN TROUBLE SINCE THE MOMENT WE MET YOU, TAYLOR.

HUH?
WHAT IS IT, NOVA...?

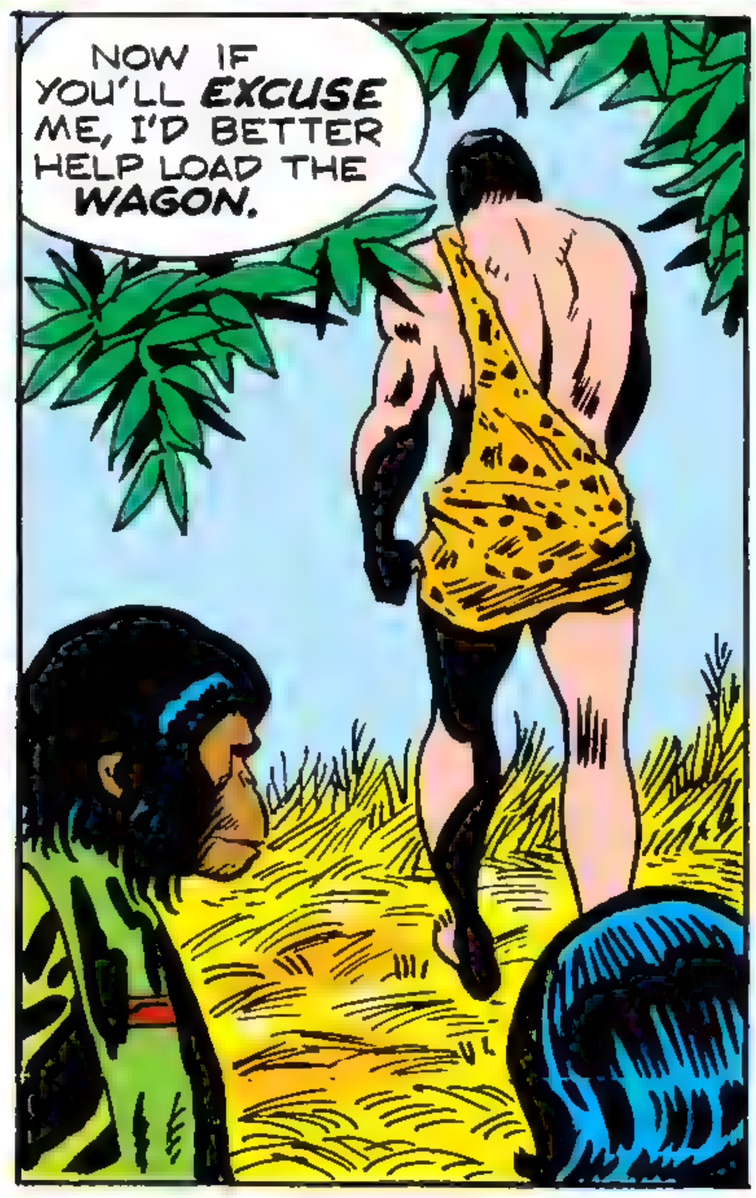
WHAT'S SHE POINTING AT?
THAT'S THE WAY HOME.
AND SHE KNOWS IT.


POOR THING... SHE'S HOMESICK.
WELL, WE'D BETTER GET STARTED. IF THE MOUNTED POLICE PICK UP OUR TRAIL, THEY'LL FOLLOW IT THIS FAR AT LEAST.
RIGHT. COME ON, LUCIUS-- LET'S PUT THE WATER AND THE PROVISIONS IN THE WAGON.


ARE YOU... GOING TO TAKE HER WITH YOU?
YES.
ACTUALLY, YOU'RE A DIFFERENT BREED FROM HER. SHE'S FROM A SPECIES WHICH WILL NEVER EVOLVE.

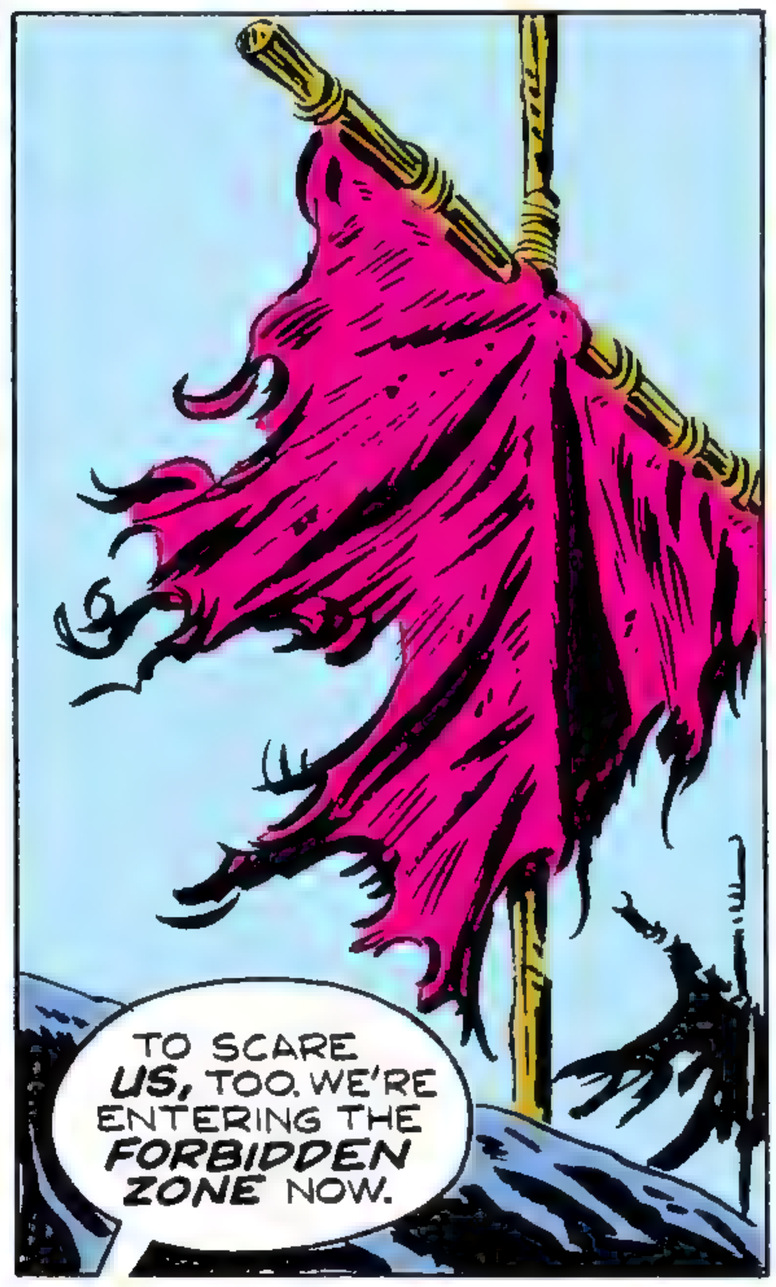
MAYBE SHE WON'T.

AND YOU'RE TAKING HER ALONG ANYWAY. YOU WANT HER THAT MUCH, DON'T YOU?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO THREW US TOGETHER, REMEMPER? AND YOU GUESSED RIGHT-- MEN, JUST LIKE APES, GROW DESPONDENT WITHOUT A MATE.


NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'D BETTER HELP LOAD THE WAGON.

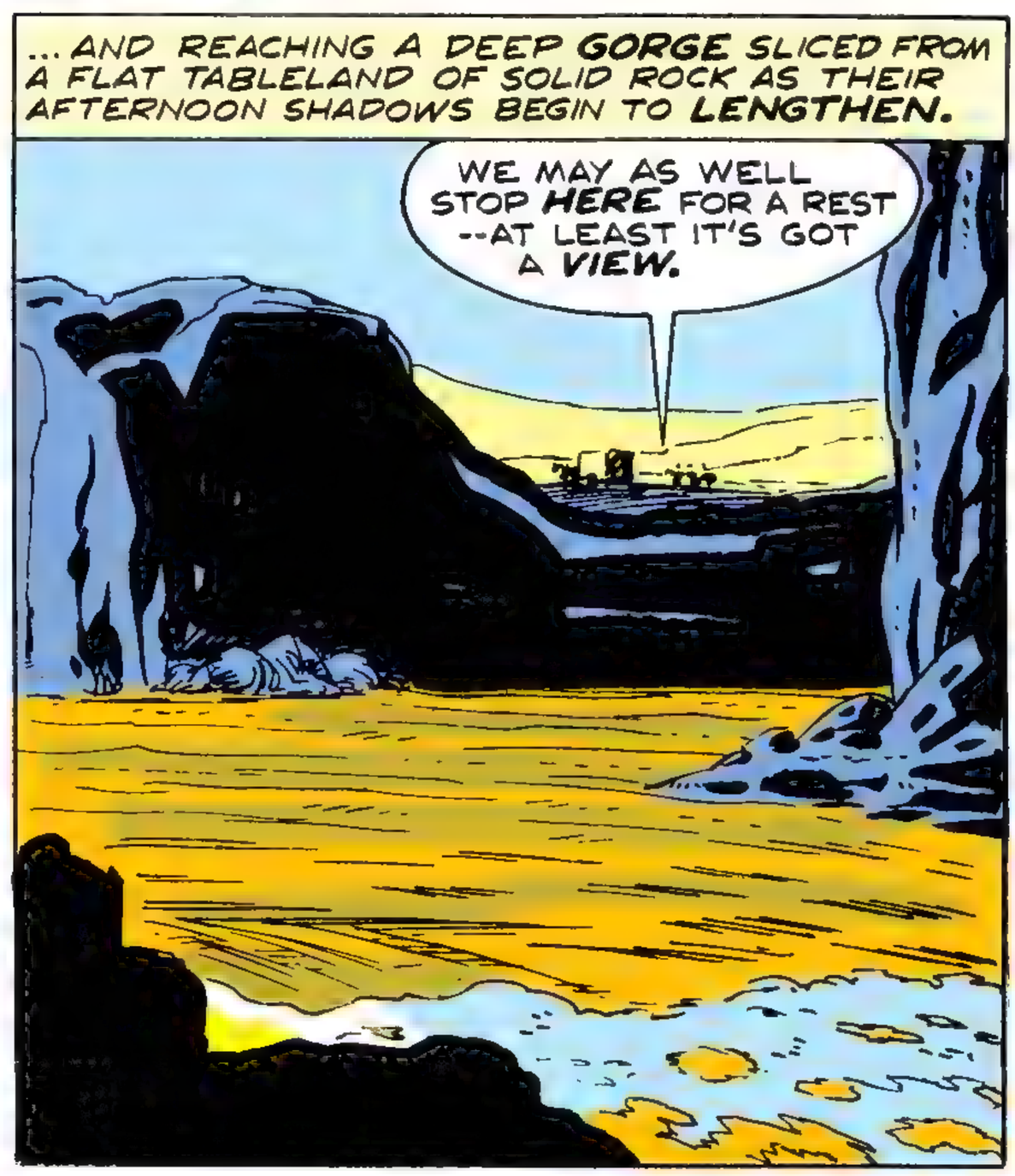
AFTER SEVERAL HOUR'S JOURNEY, THE TERRAIN WITHERS FROM LUSH FOREST TO FLAT SAVANNAH... AND ULTIMATELY TO A BLEAK AND BARREN LANDSCAPE OF DRY WASH AND SPARSE TAMARISKS...

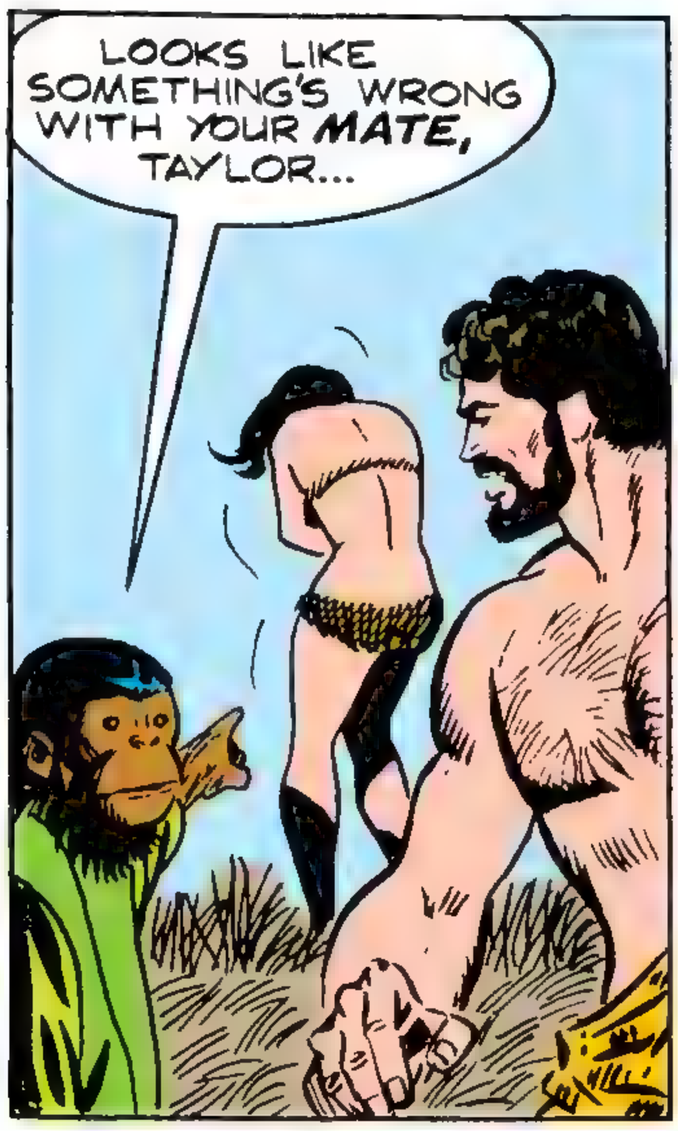
THOSE SCARECROWS, AUNT ZIRA--WHO PUT THEM UP?
THE HUNT CLUB.
TO SCARE OFF HUMANS?


TO SCARE US, TOO. WE'RE ENTERING THE FORBIDDEN ZONE NOW.

THE SCARECROWS FRIGHTEN YOU, DON'T THEY, NOVA?
DON'T WORRY --THEY WON'T BITE YOU WITH ME AROUND.
AND THE STRANGE CARAVAN MOVES ON UNDER THE STEADILY RISING SUN...

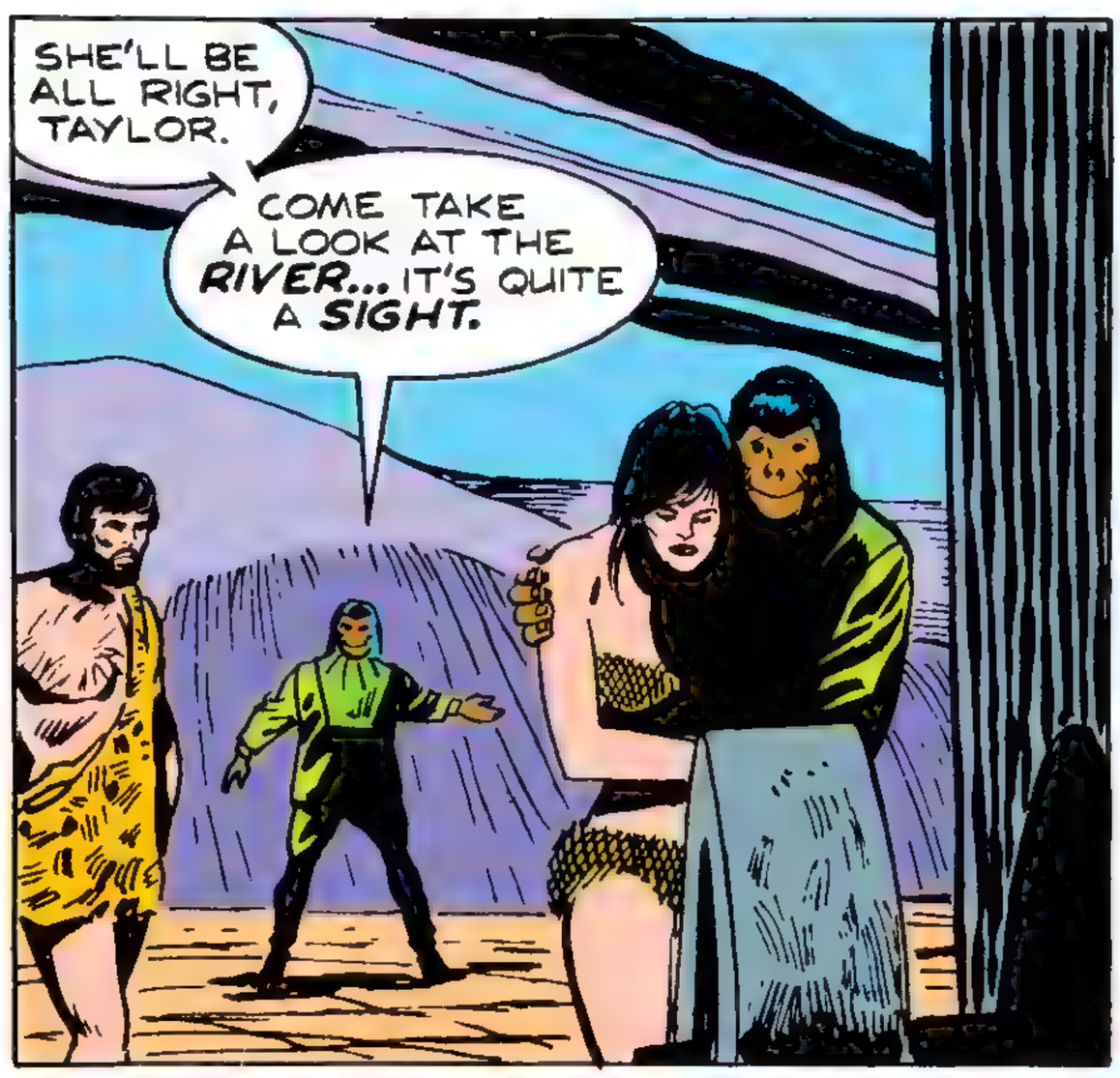
...CROSSING THE TIP OF A SWEEPING DESERT BY NOON...

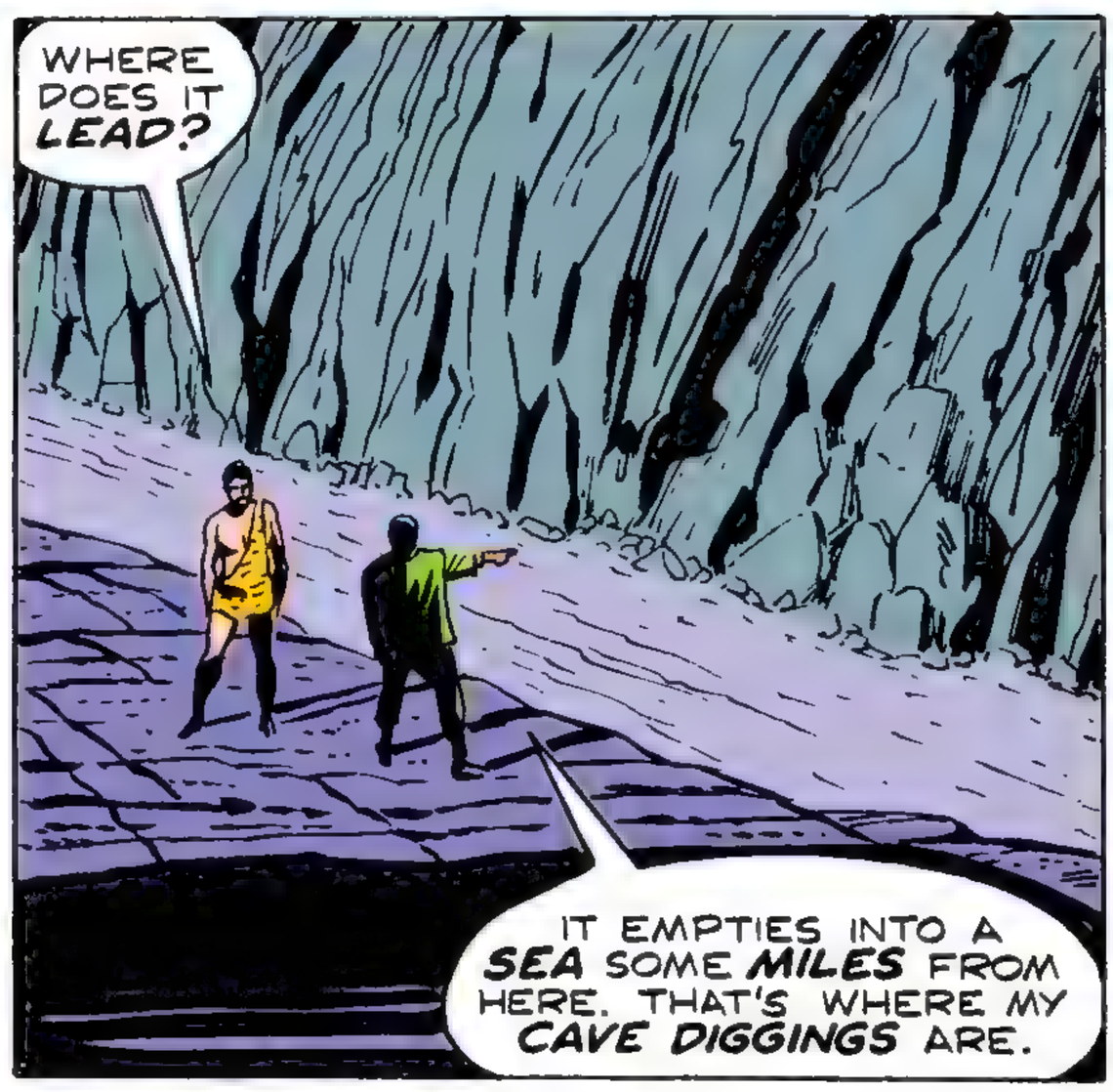

...AND REACHING A DEEP GORGE SLICED FROM A FLAT TABLELAND OF SOLID ROCK AS THEIR AFTERNOON SHADOWS BEGIN TO LENGTHEN.
WE MAY AS WELL STOP HERE FOR A REST --AT LEAST IT'S GOT A VIEW.


LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH YOUR MATE, TAYLOR...

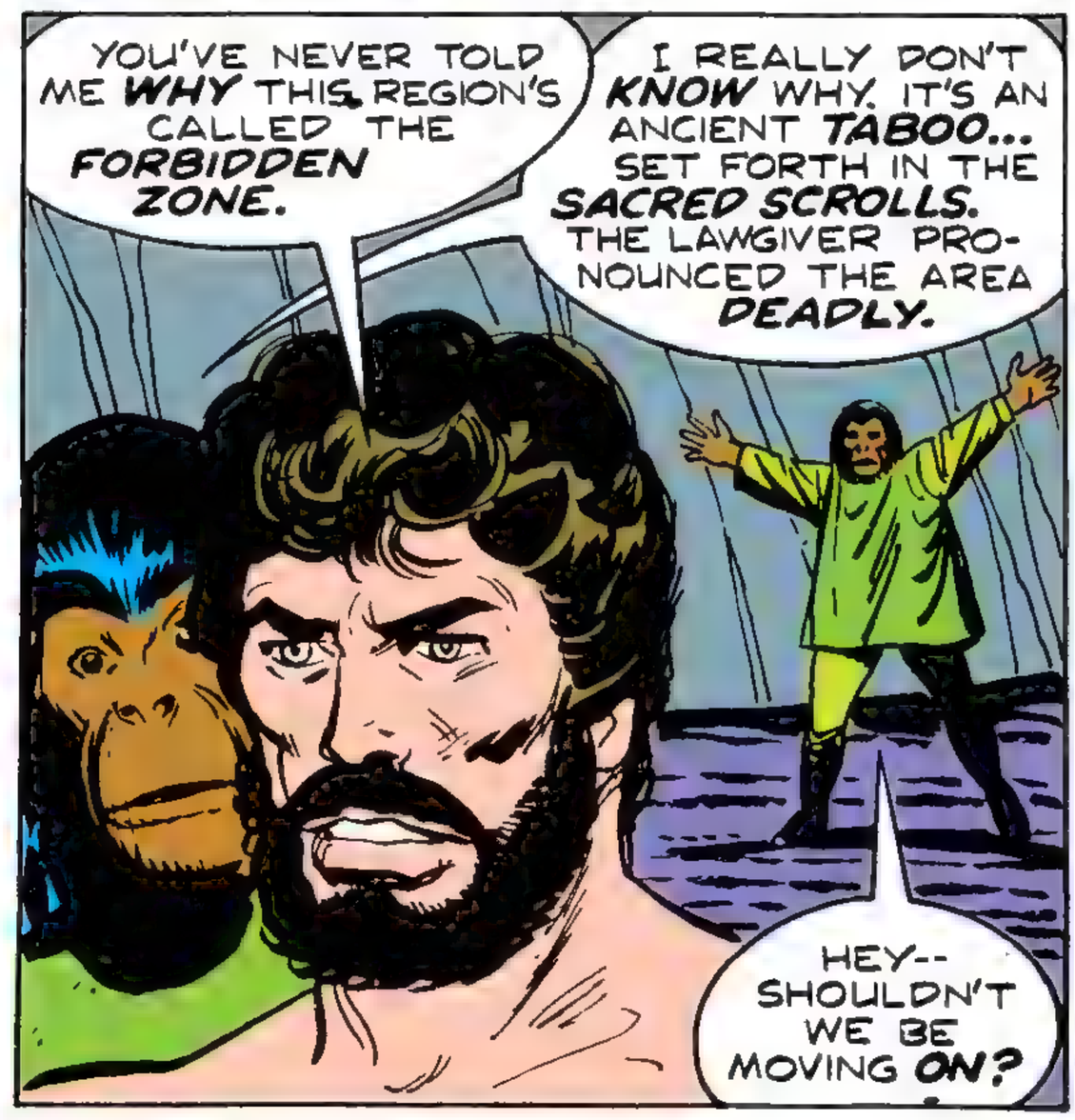
LET ME HANDLE THIS...

YOU MAY BE SMARTER THAN I AM, TAYLOR--
--BUT I'M THE VETERINARY ON THIS PLANET. I'LL TAKE CARE OF HER.


SHE'LL BE ALL RIGHT, TAYLOR.
COME TAKE A LOOK AT THE RIVER... IT'S QUITE A SIGHT.


WHERE DOES IT LEAD?
IT EMPTIES INTO A SEA SOME MILES FROM HERE. THAT'S WHERE MY CAVE DIGGINGS ARE.

AND BEYOND THAT?
NO ONE KNOWS. AT HIGH TIDE YOU CAN'T RIDE ALONG THE SHORE, AND WE HAD NO BOATS ON THE LAST EXPEDITION.

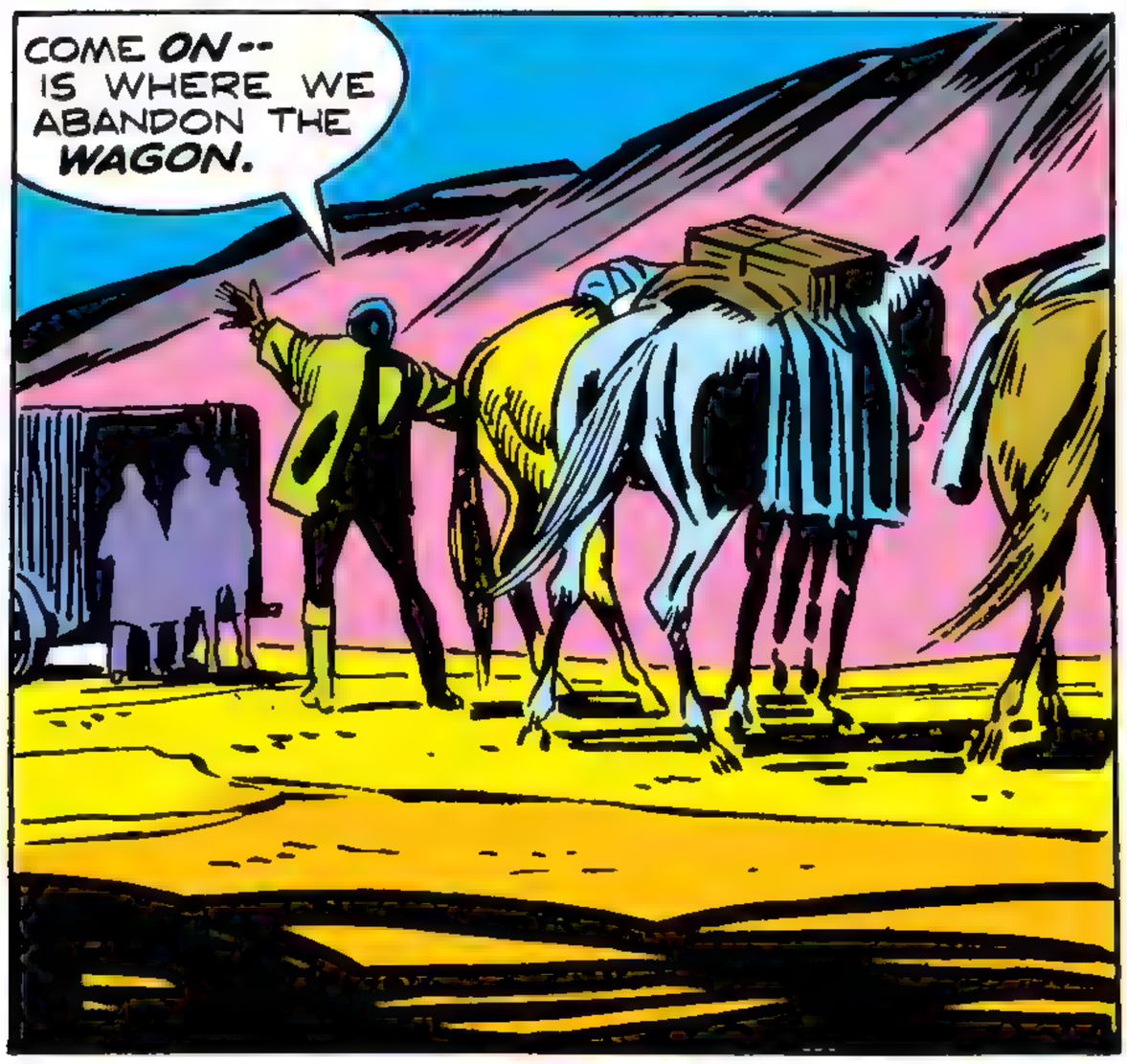

YOU'VE NEVER TOLD ME WHY THIS REGION'S CALLED THE FORBIDDEN ZONE.
I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHY. IT'S AN ANCIENT TABOO... SET FORTH IN THE SACRED SCROLLS. THE LAWGIVER PRONOUNCED THE AREA DEADLY.
HEY-- SHOULDN'T WE BE MOVING ON?

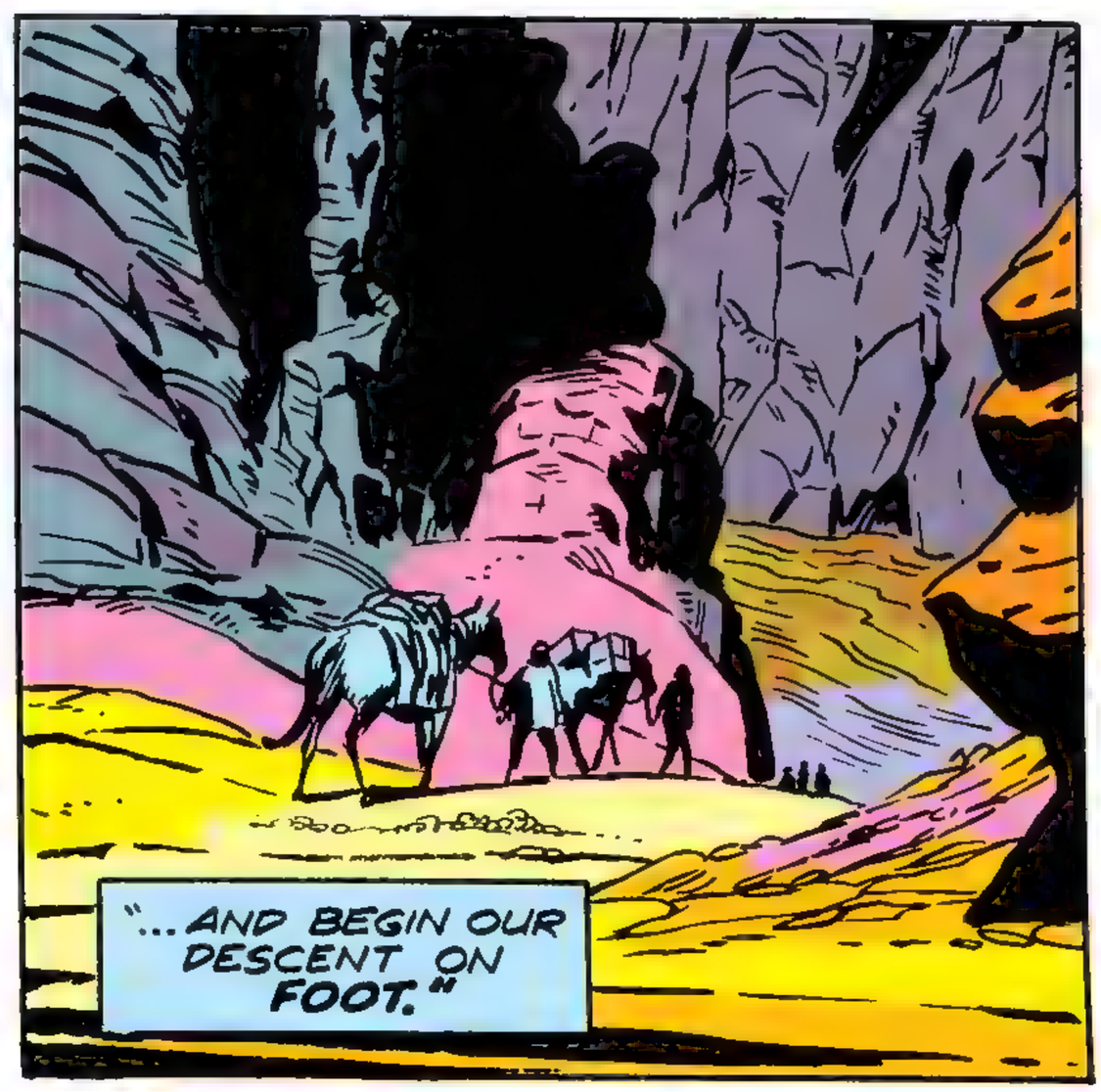
I'M FOR THAT.
THIS CAVE OF YOURS SHOULD PROVE INTERESTING, CORNELIUS.

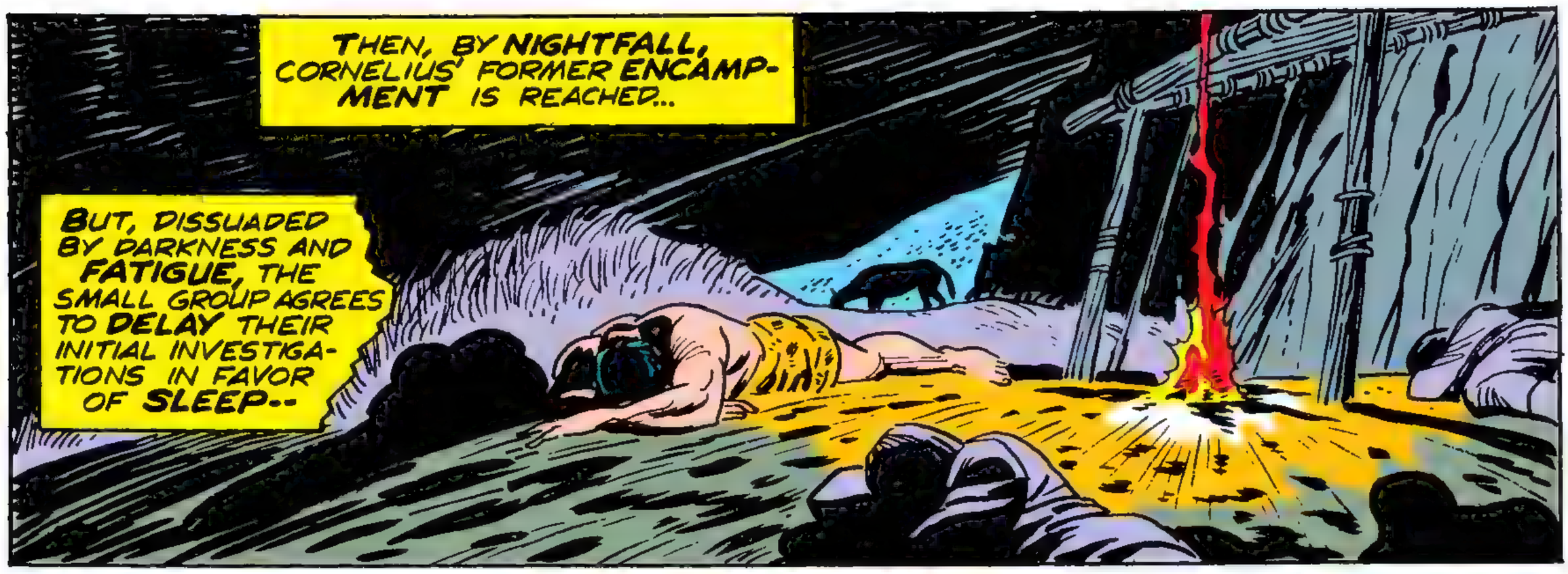
WHAT'S THE DIAGNOSIS, DOCTOR-- A TOUCH OF THE SUN?
SHE'S NOT SICK AT ALL...

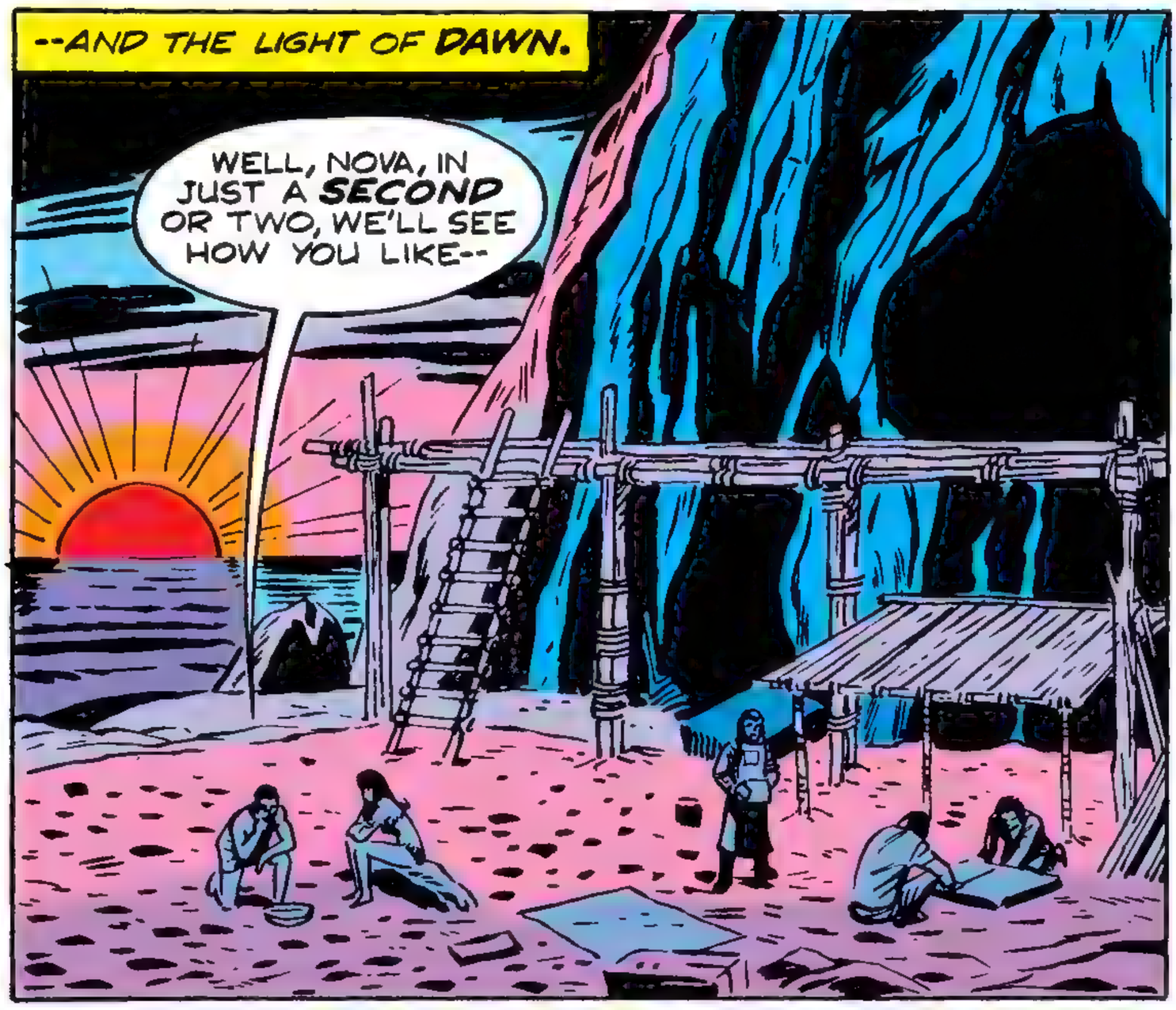
SHE'S... PREGNANT.

SO YOU SEE, DOCTOR ...I'M NOT AN ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT BREED FROM HER.


COME ON-- IS WHERE WE ABANDON THE WAGON.


"...AND BEGIN OUR DESCENT ON FOOT."

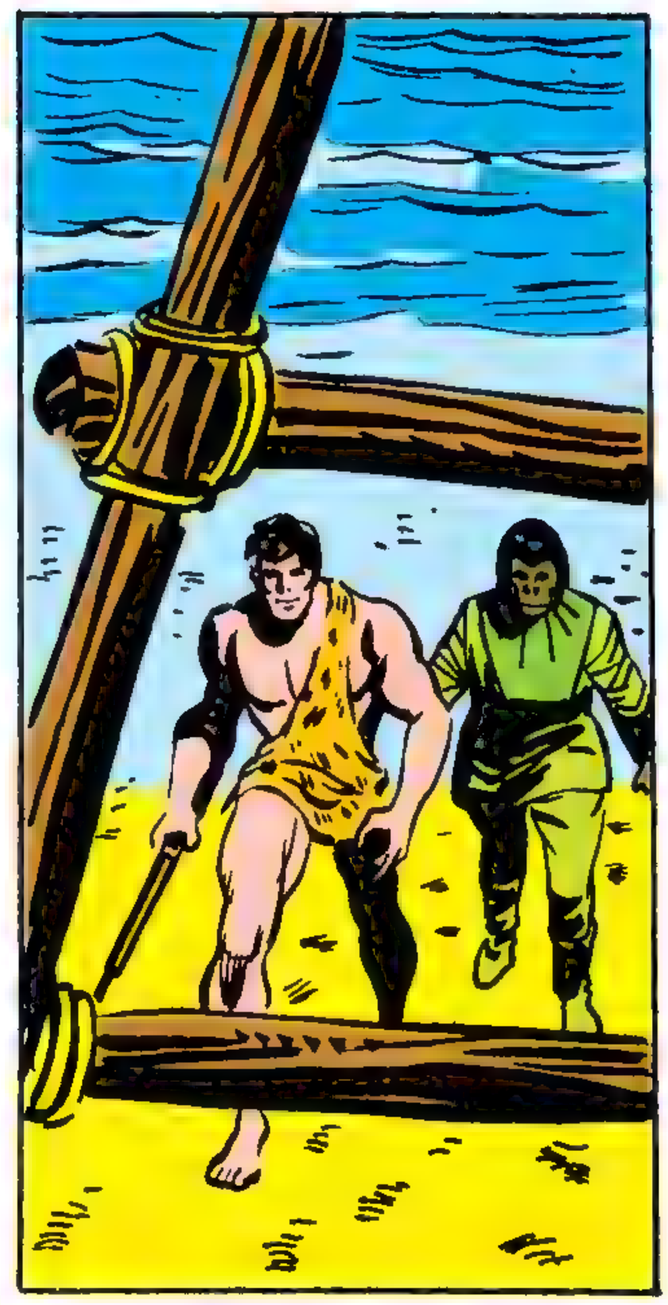

THEN, BY NIGHTFALL, CORNELIUS' FORMER ENCAMPMENT IS REACHED...
BUT, DISSUADED BY DARKNESS AND FATIGUE, THE SMALL GROUP AGREES TO DELAY THEIR INITIAL INVESTIGATIONS IN FAVOR OF SLEEP--


--AND THE LIGHT OF DAWN.
WELL, NOVA, IN JUST A SECOND OR TWO, WE'LL SEE HOW YOU LIKE--

--MY UNADORNED FACE.
A LITTLE NICKED... BUT NOT ALL THAT UGLY, EH...?

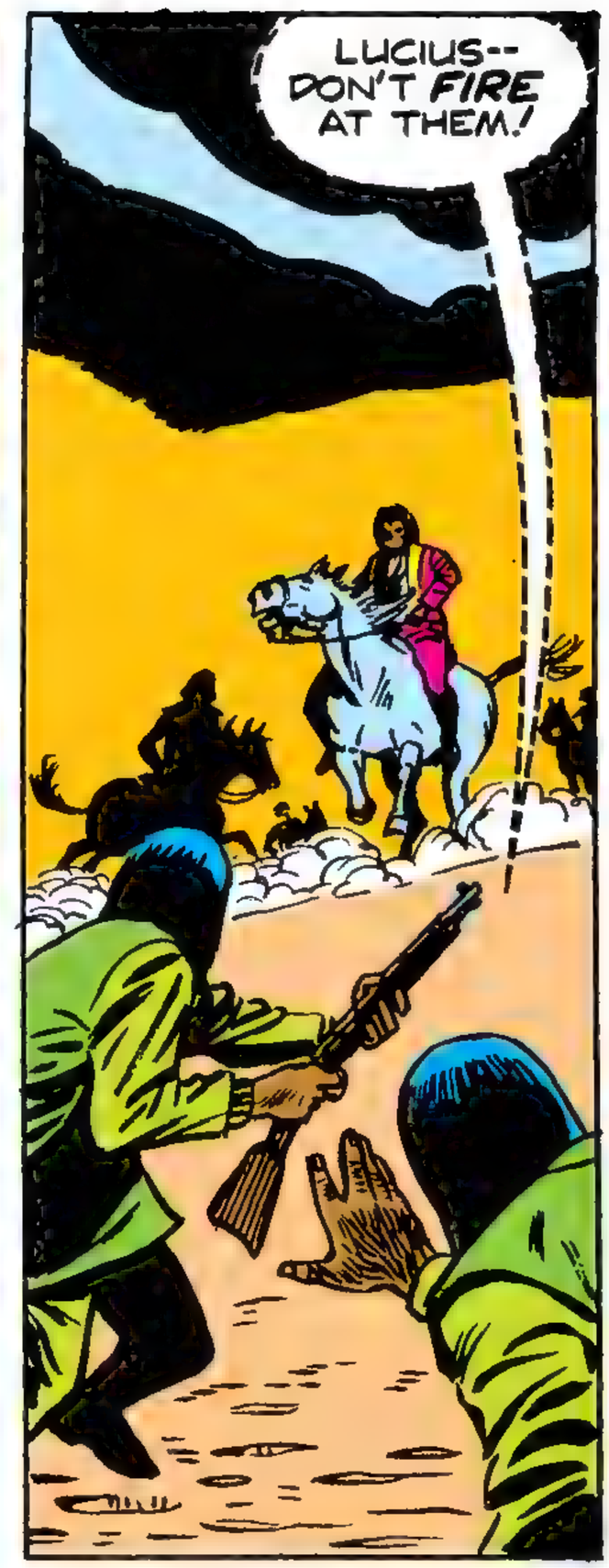
WHY DID YOU DO THAT? SCRAPE OFF YOUR HAIR?
IN MY WORLD-- BEFORE I LEFT IT, ANYWAY-- ONLY YOUNGSTERS OF YOUR AGE, LUCIUS, WORE THEIR HAIR UNSCRAPED.
STILL, IT MAKES YOU LOOK SOMEHOW... LESS INTELLIGENT.

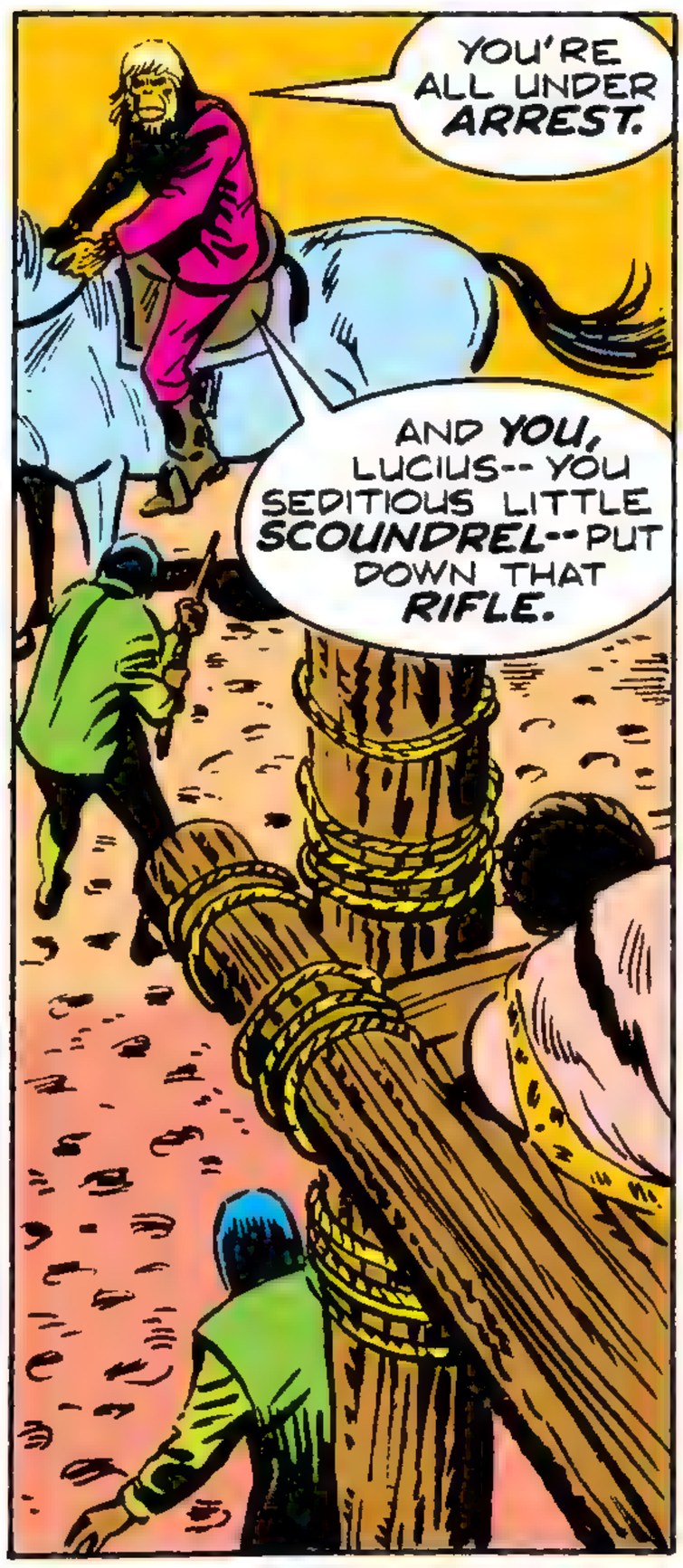
YOU WOULD SAY THAT, CORNELIUS.
BUT WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO SHOW ME WHAT'S IN YOUR CAVE?
RIGHT NOW, IF YOU LIKE.



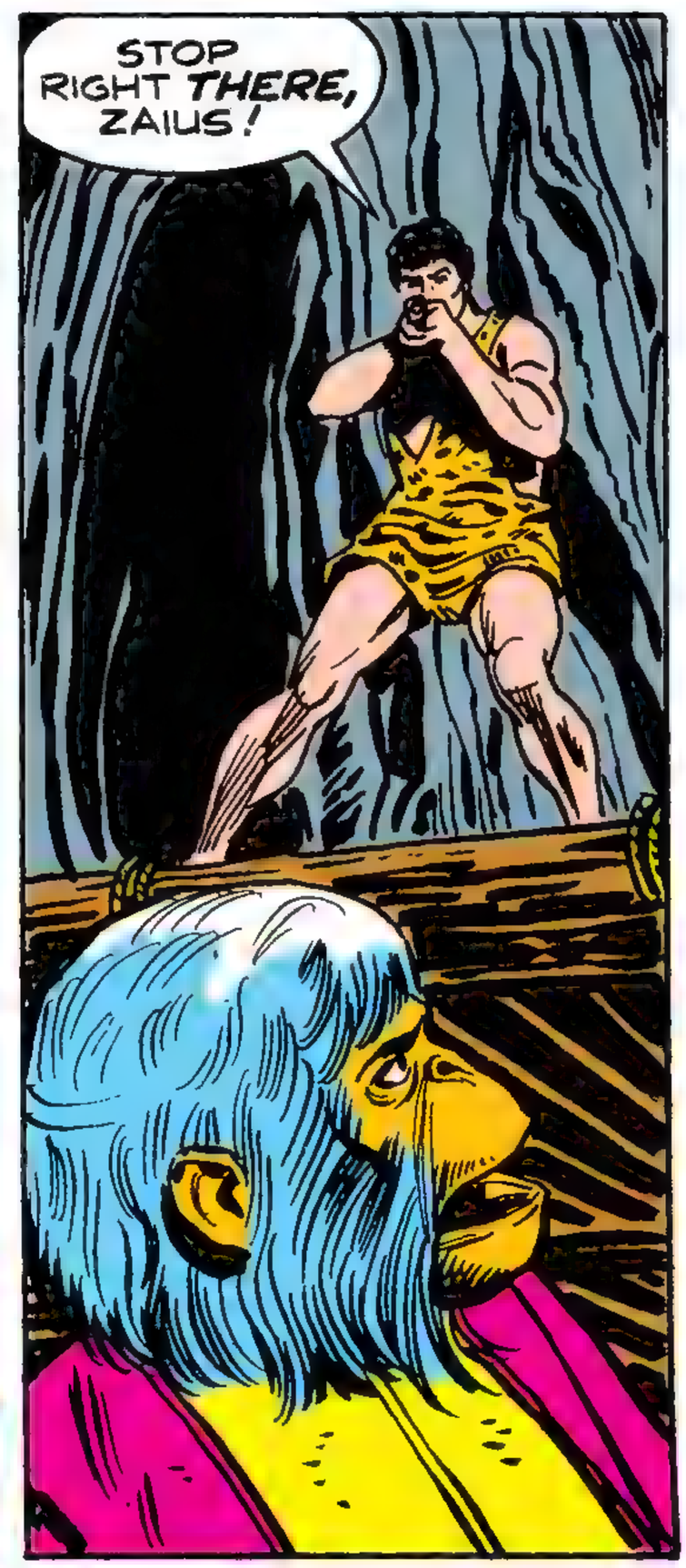
DO YOU HEAR THAT--?
SOUNDS LIKE HORSES...!

IT'S DOCTOR ZAIUS--!
NOT TO MENTION THE MEANEST-LOOKING BUNCH OF GORILLAS I'VE SEEN ON THIS PLANET YET.


LUCIUS-- DON'T FIRE AT THEM!


YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST.
AND YOU, LUCIUS-- YOU SEDITIOUS LITTLE SCOUNDREL-- PUT DOWN THAT RIFLE.

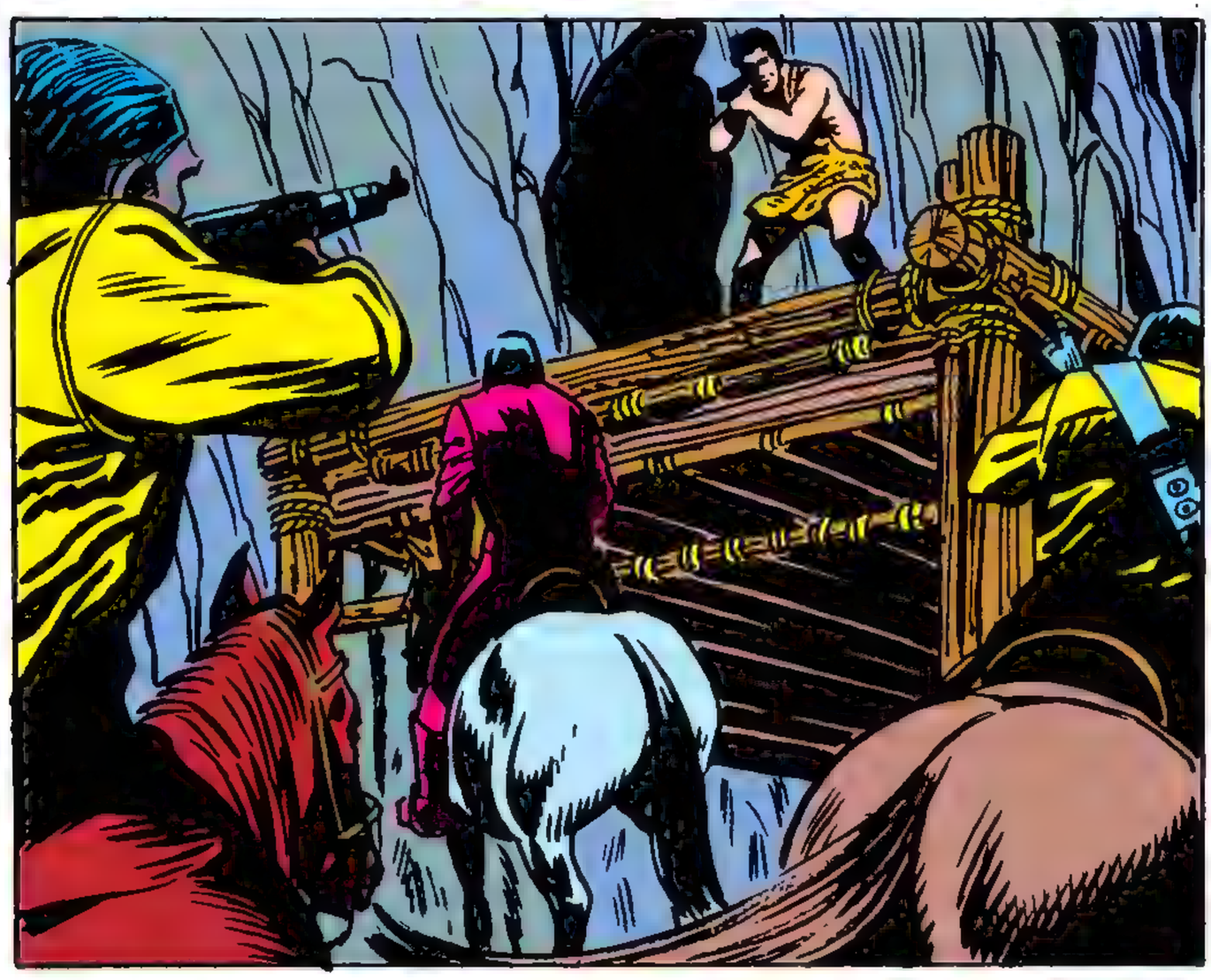
DO AS HE SAYS, LUCIUS.
OH, ALL RIGHT.
THAT'S BETTER. NOW, I MUST INFORM ALL OF YOU THAT--

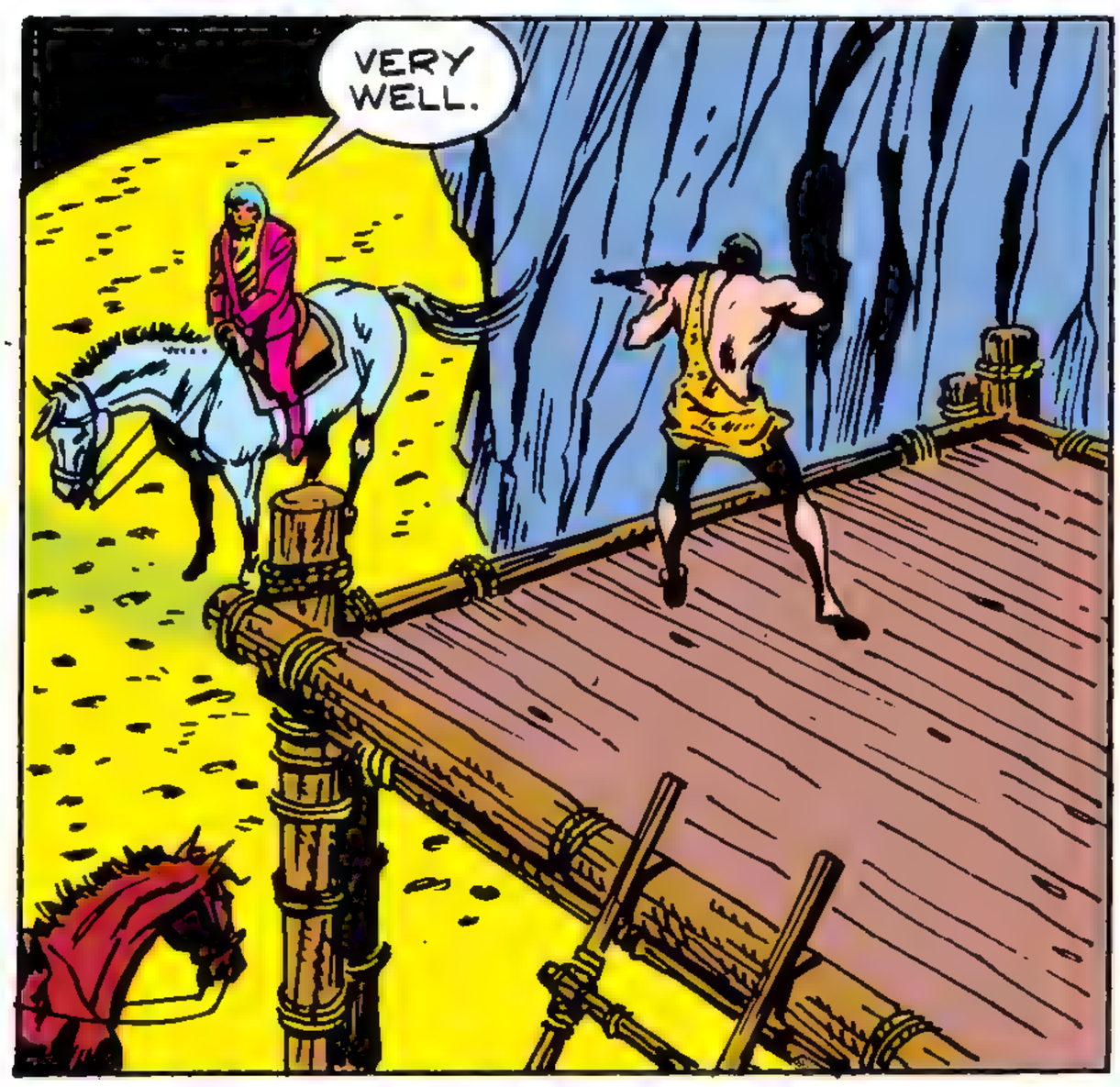

STOP RIGHT THERE, ZAIUS!

DON'T BE A FOOL! YOU'RE OUTNUMBERED AND OUTGUNNED--!
MAYBE SO...

...BUT IF THERE'S ANY SHOOTING TO BE DONE, DR. ZAIUS--YOU'LL BE THE FIRST TO CATCH IT.
YOU CAN DEPEND ON THAT.

TAYLOR, YOU'RE NOT IN COMMAND HERE. LOWER THAT RIFLE.
SHUT UP.

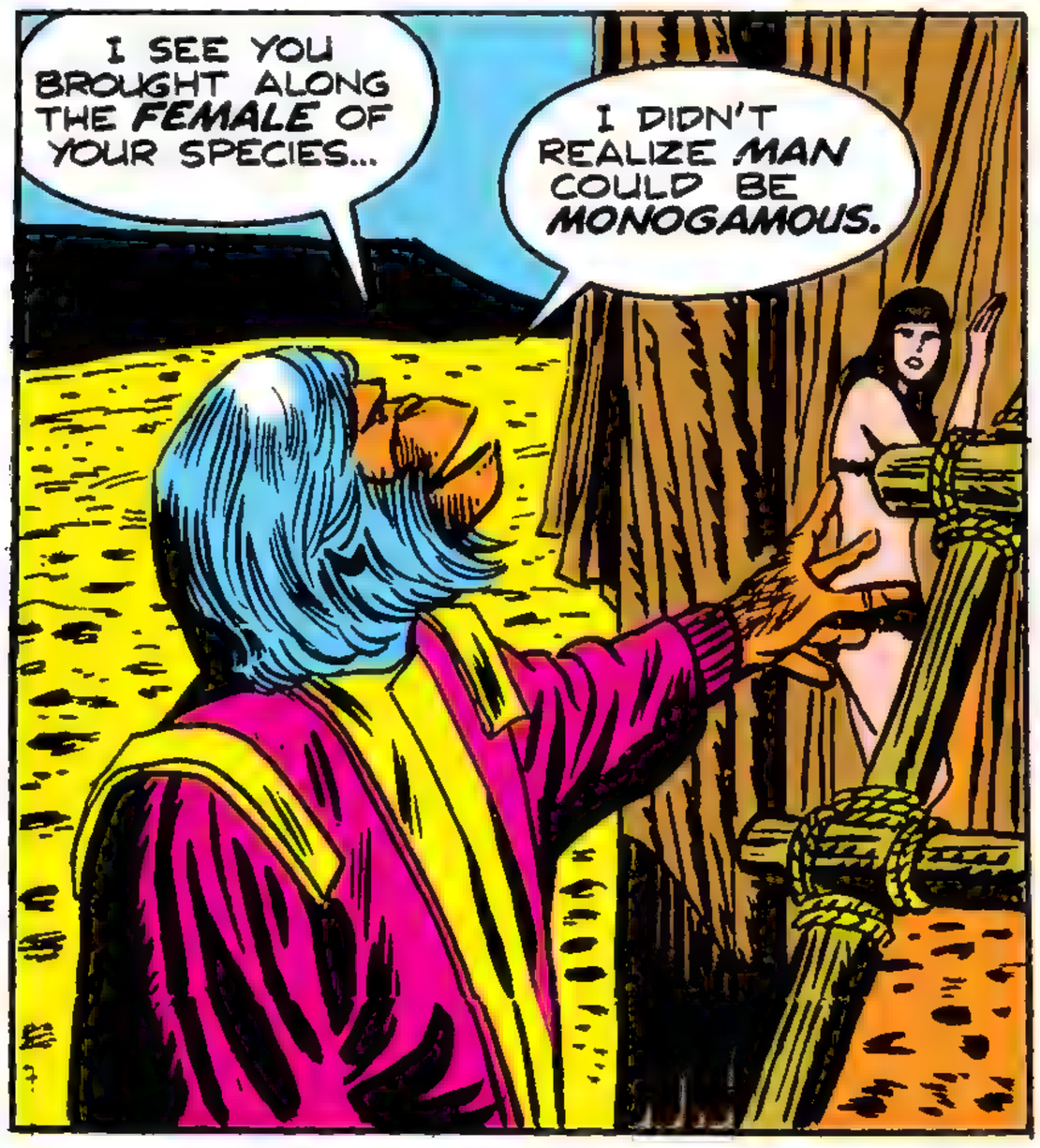



VERY WELL.

LOWER YOUR WEAPONS.

TELL THEM TO MOVE AROUND THE POINT DOWN THE BEACH-- OUT OF RANGE.

HOW DID YOU KNOW WE'D COME HERE, SIR?
IT WASN'T DIFFICULT TO ANTICIPATE. ONLY AN APOSTATE OR A LUNATIC WOULD FLEE TO THE FORBIDDEN ZONE.

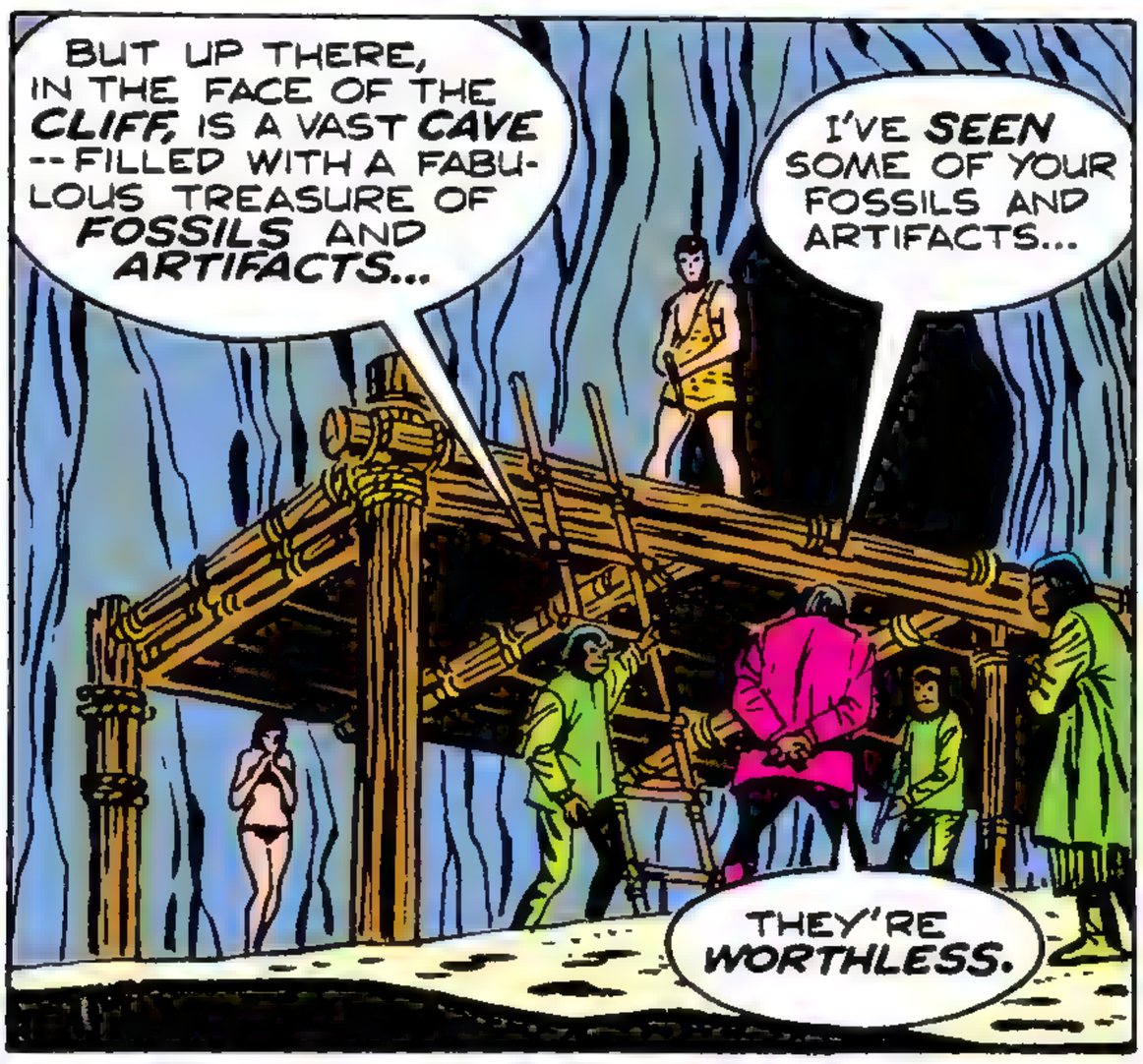

I SEE YOU BROUGHT ALONG THE FEMALE OF YOUR SPECIES...
I DIDN'T REALIZE MAN COULD BE MONOGAMOUS.

ON THIS PLANET-- IT'S EASY.
HAH!
FORGIVE MY DERISION, BUT I CAN SEE THAT TALKING TO A HUMAN WON'T GET ME ANYWHERE.

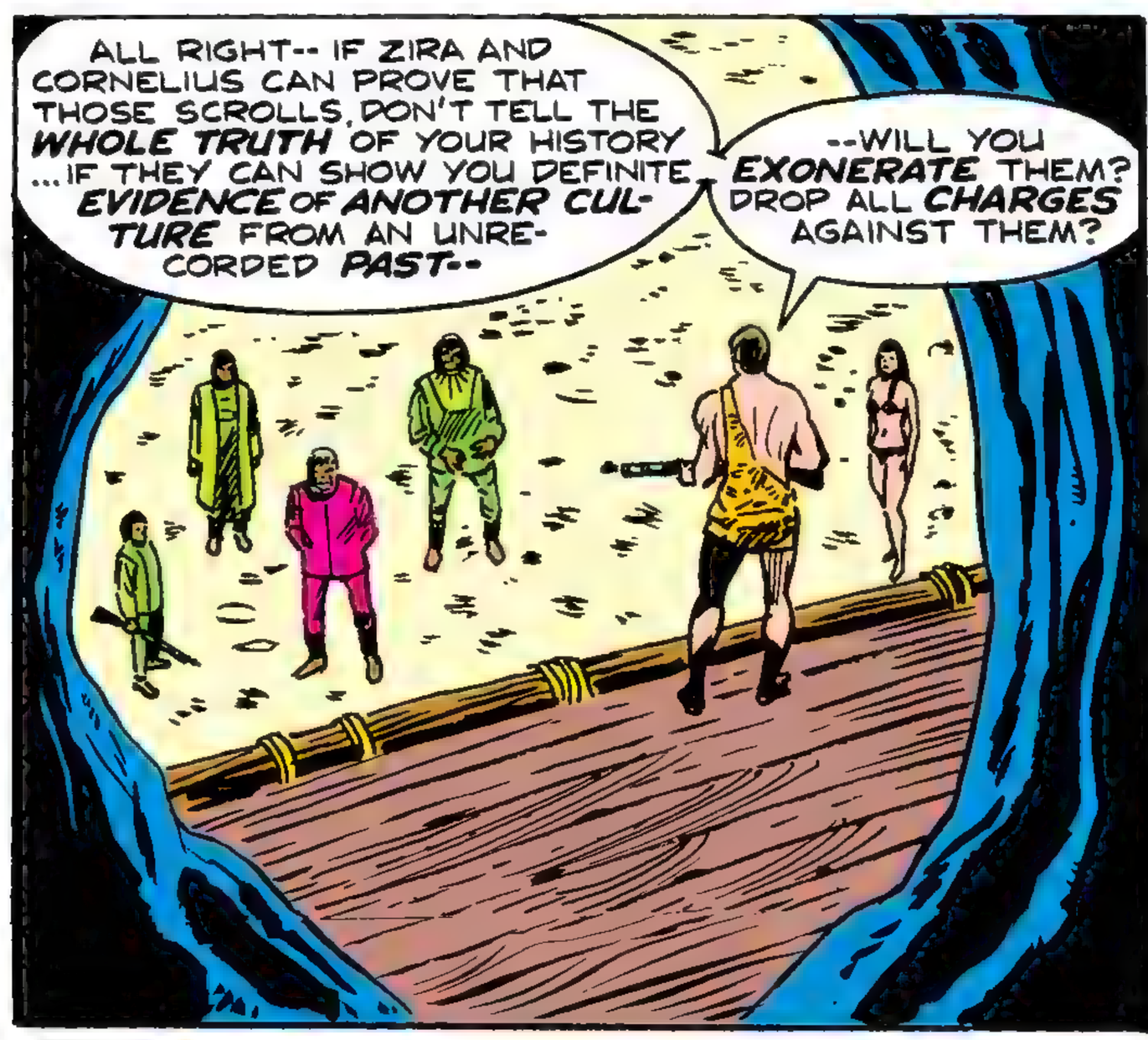
LET'S HOPE YOU HAVE MORE SENSE.
I'M ASKING YOU TO RECONSIDER THE RASH COURSE OF ACTION YOU'VE TAKEN. IF YOU'RE CONVICTED OF HERESY, THE MOST YOU'LL GET IS TWO YEARS...

...BUT IF YOU PERSIST IN POINTING GUNS IN MY DIRECTION--
--YOU'LL HANG FOR HIGH TREASON.

WE'VE NEVER MEANT TO BE TREASONABLE, SIR...
...AND I MEAN THAT WITH ALL SINCERETY AND DUE RESPECT.


BUT UP THERE, IN THE FACE OF THE CLIFF, IS A VAST CAVE --FILLED WITH A FABULOUS TREASURE OF FOSSILS AND ARTIFACTS...
I'VE SEEN SOME OF YOUR FOSSILS AND ARTIFACTS...
THEY'RE WORTHLESS.

LET'S SEE IF YOU'RE WILLING TO PUT THAT STATEMENT TO A TEST.
TAYLOR, I REALLY WISH YOU WOULDN'T--


ALL RIGHT-- IF ZIRA AND CORNELIUS CAN PROVE THAT THOSE SCROLLS, DON'T TELL THE WHOLE TRUTH OF YOUR HISTORY ...IF THEY CAN SHOW YOU DEFINITE EVIDENCE OF ANOTHER CULTURE FROM AN UNRECORDED PAST--
--WILL YOU EXONERATE THEM? DROP ALL CHARGES AGAINST THEM?

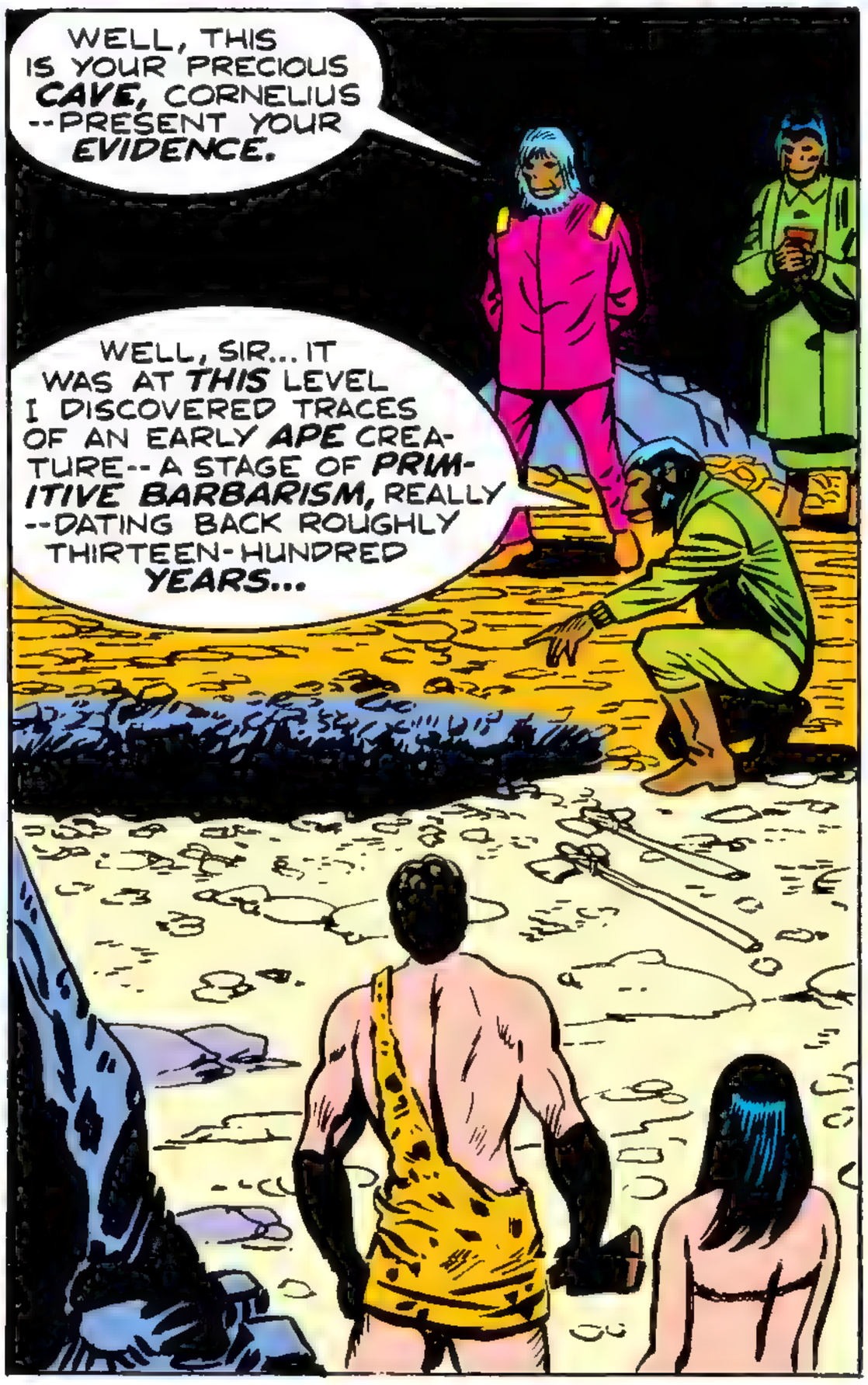
OF COURSE.

OKAY. COME ON UP TO THE CAVE.

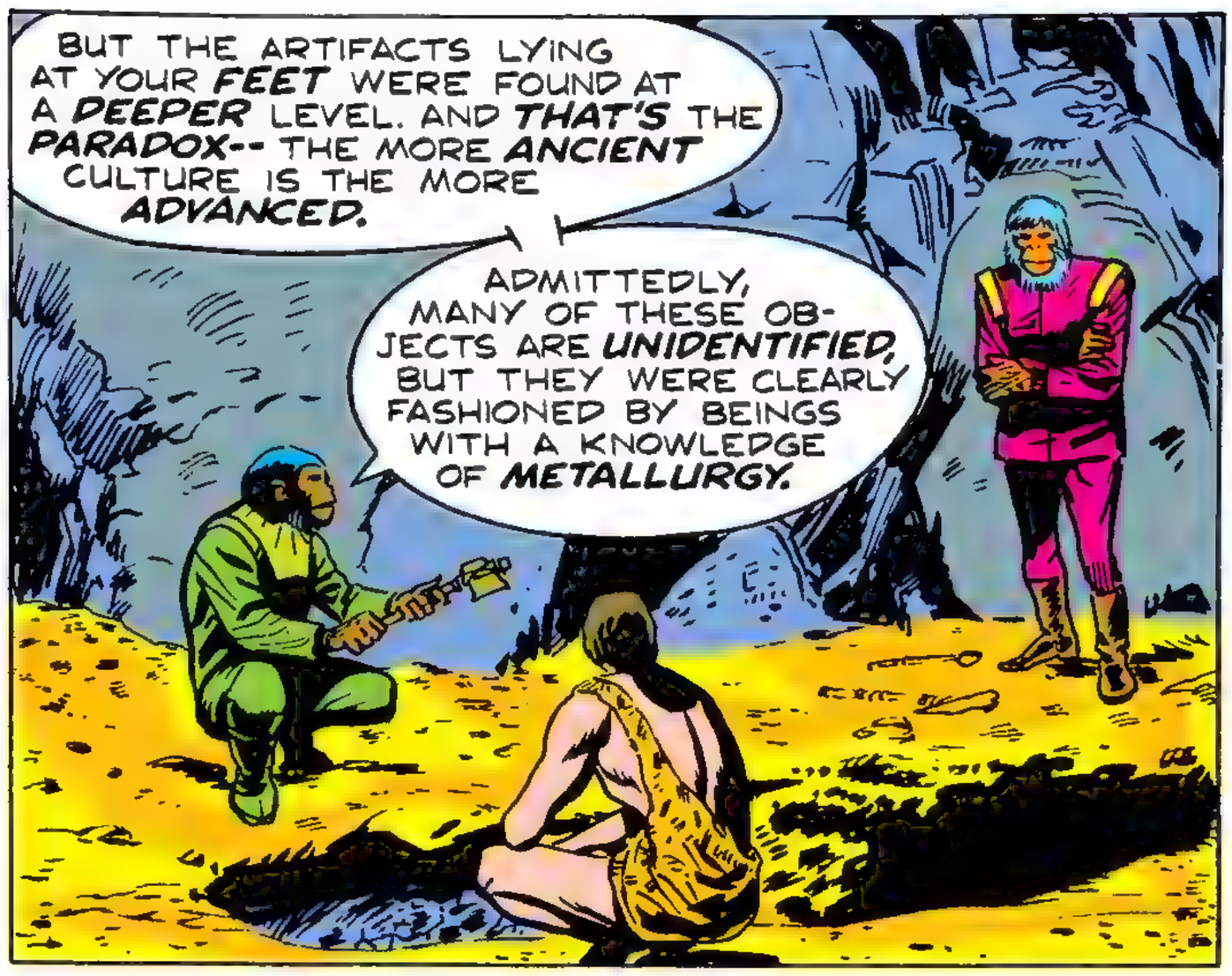
SORRY, LUCIUS, BUT I'M AFRAID YOU'LL HAVE TO STAY DOWN THERE AND GUARD THE HORSES.
ALWAYS GIVING ORDERS. JUST LIKE EVERY OTHER ADULT.

RELAX-- YOU'LL SEE IT ALL LATER.
AND REMEMBER, DR. ZAIUS... DON'T TRY ANYTHING...

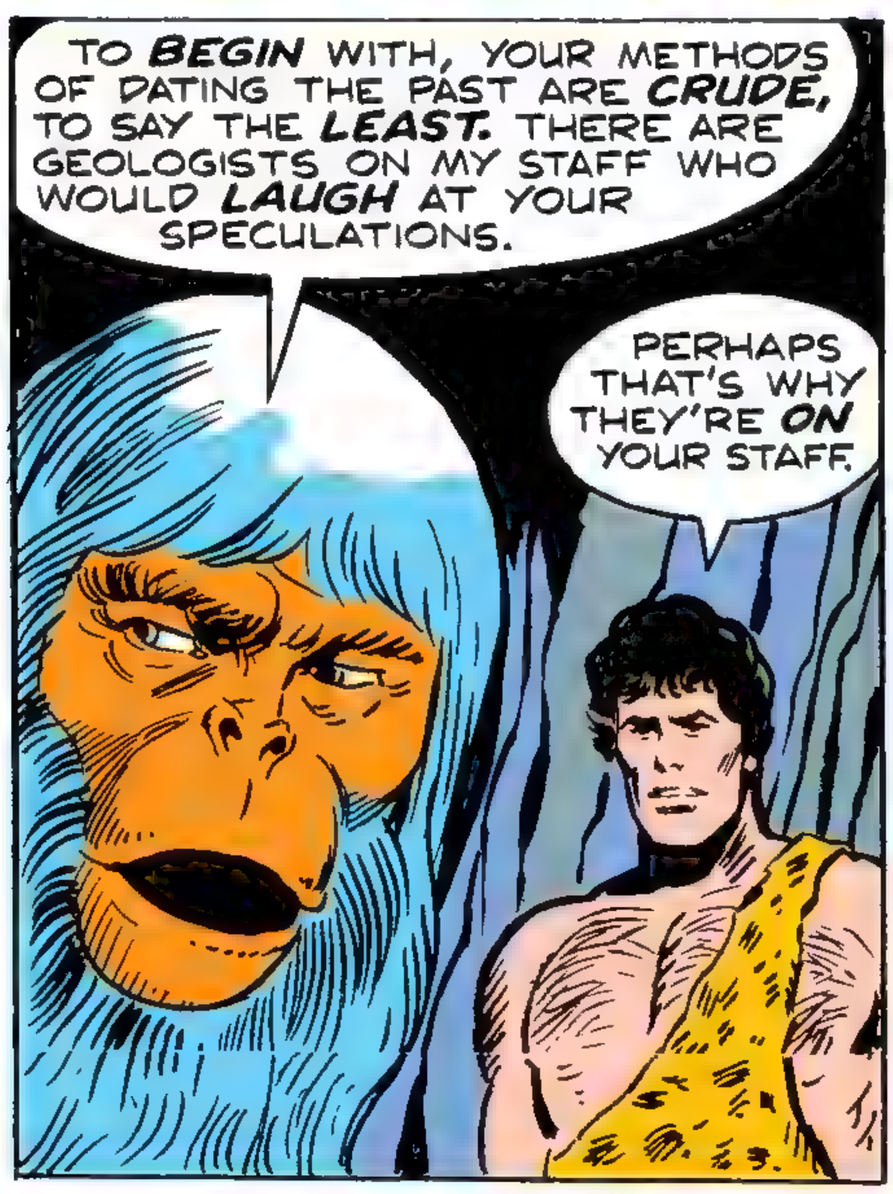
ON MY WORLD, CAVES WERE VERY SIMILAR TO TOMBS.

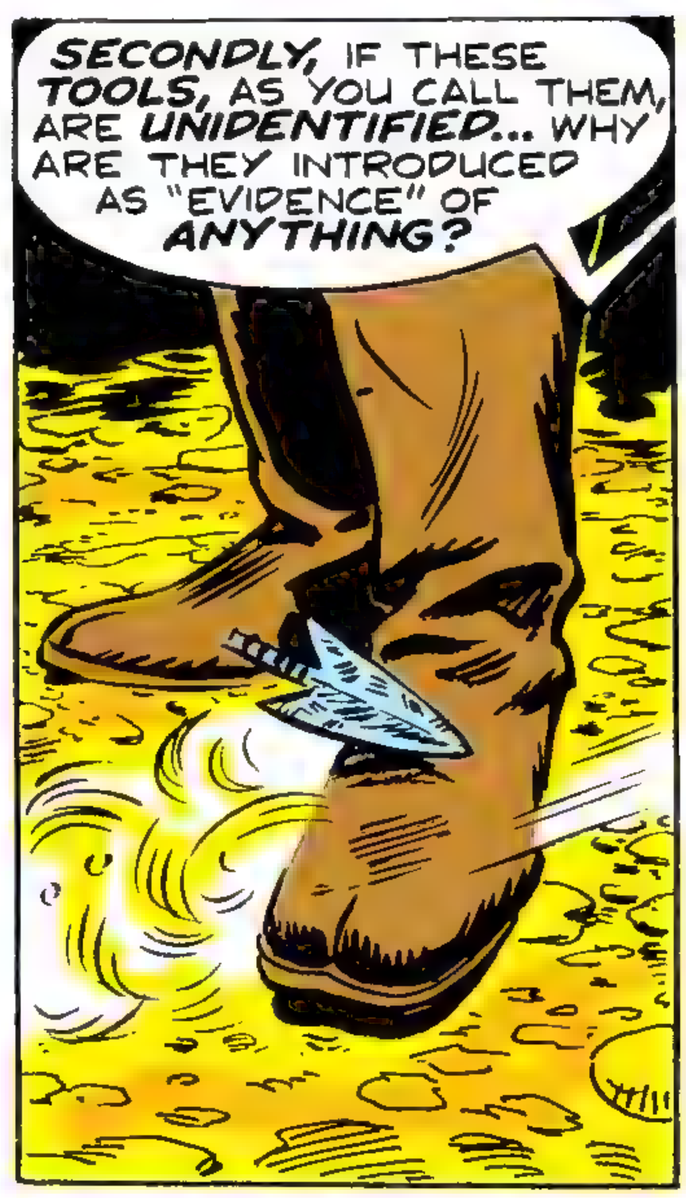

WELL, THIS IS YOUR PRECIOUS CAVE, CORNELIUS --PRESENT YOUR EVIDENCE.
WELL, SIR... IT WAS AT THIS LEVEL I DISCOVERED TRACES OF AN EARLY APE CREATURE-- A STAGE OF PRIMITIVE BARBARISM, REALLY --DATING BACK ROUGHLY THIRTEEN-HUNDRED YEARS...

AND IT WAS HERE I FOUND CUTTING TOOLS AND ARROWHEADS ...AS WELL AS THE FOSSILIZED BONES OF CARNIVOROUS GORILLAS...

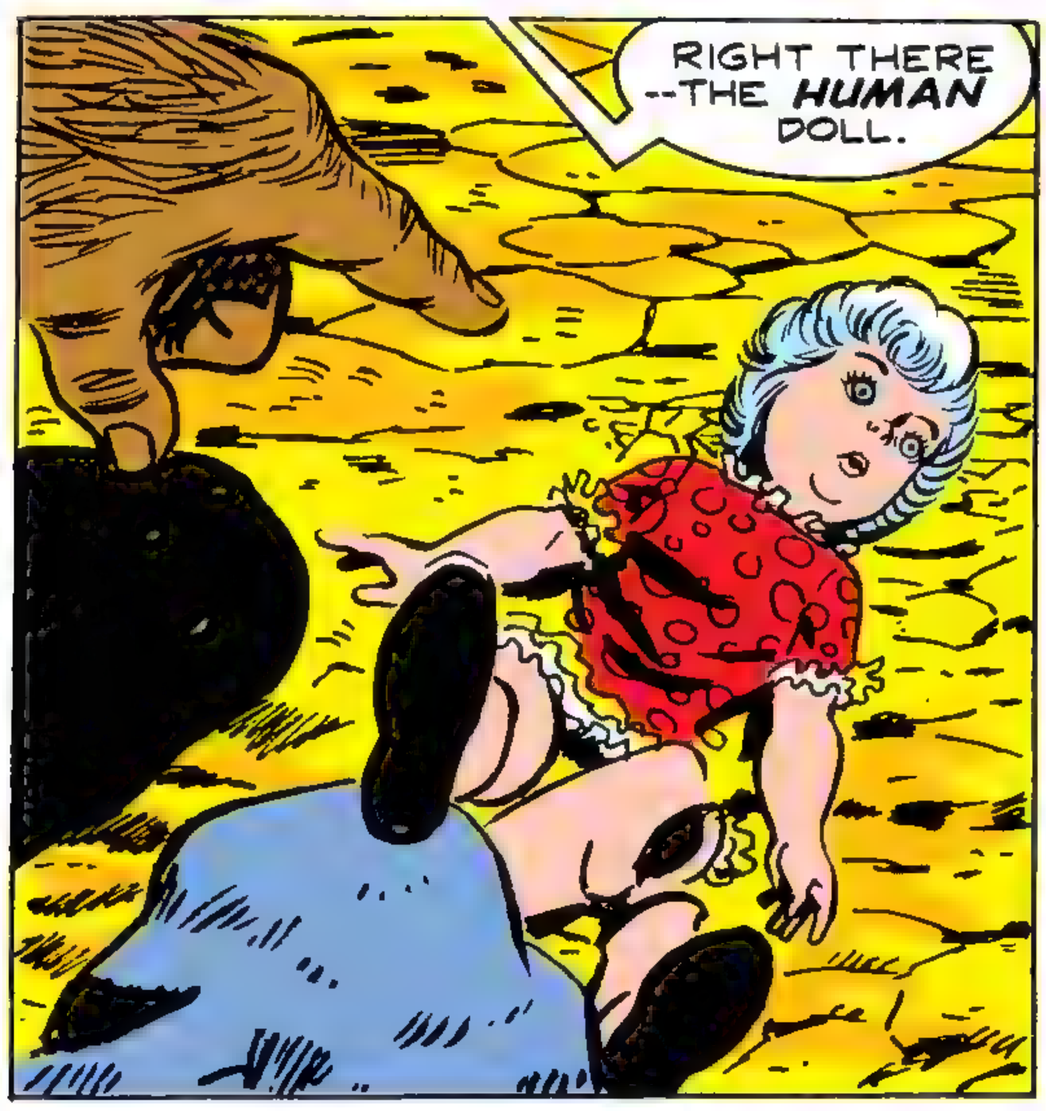

BUT THE ARTIFACTS LYING AT YOUR FEET WERE FOUND AT A DEEPER LEVEL. AND THAT'S THE PARADOX-- THE MORE ANCIENT CULTURE IS THE MORE ADVANCED.
ADMITTEDLY, MANY OF THESE OBJECTS ARE UNIDENTIFIED, BUT THEY WERE CLEARLY FASHIONED BY BEINGS WITH A KNOWLEDGE OF METALLURGY.

INDEED, THE VERY FACT THAT THESE TOOLS ARE UNKNOWN TO US COULD SUGGEST A CULTURE WHICH IS IN CERTAIN WAYS ALMOST EQUAL TO OUR OWN. SOME OF THE EVIDENCE IS UNCONTESTABLE--
DON'T SPEAK TO ME IN ABSOLUTES! THE EVIDENCE IS CONTESTABLE--!


TO BEGIN WITH, YOUR METHODS OF DATING THE PAST ARE CRUDE, TO SAY THE LEAST. THERE ARE GEOLOGISTS ON MY STAFF WHO WOULD LAUGH AT YOUR SPECULATIONS.
PERHAPS THAT'S WHY THEY'RE ON YOUR STAFF.


SECONDLY, IF THESE TOOLS, AS YOU CALL THEM, ARE UNIDENTIFIED... WHY ARE THEY INTRODUCED AS "EVIDENCE" OF ANYTHING?

BUT THERE'S THE DOLL, SIR.
WHAT? WHAT "DOLL"?


RIGHT THERE --THE HUMAN DOLL.

WHAT'S THE MATTER, ZAIUS-- MONKEY GOT YOUR TONGUE?
NEXT ISSUE:
THE SHOCKING SECRET OF THE PLANET OF THE APES

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ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES™
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HUMANS, THE ONLY WAY YOU WILL ENTER THE FORBIDDEN ZONE--
-- IS DEAD!
STARLIN JANSON

STAN LEE PRESENTS PLANET OF THE APES!™

THE SECRET

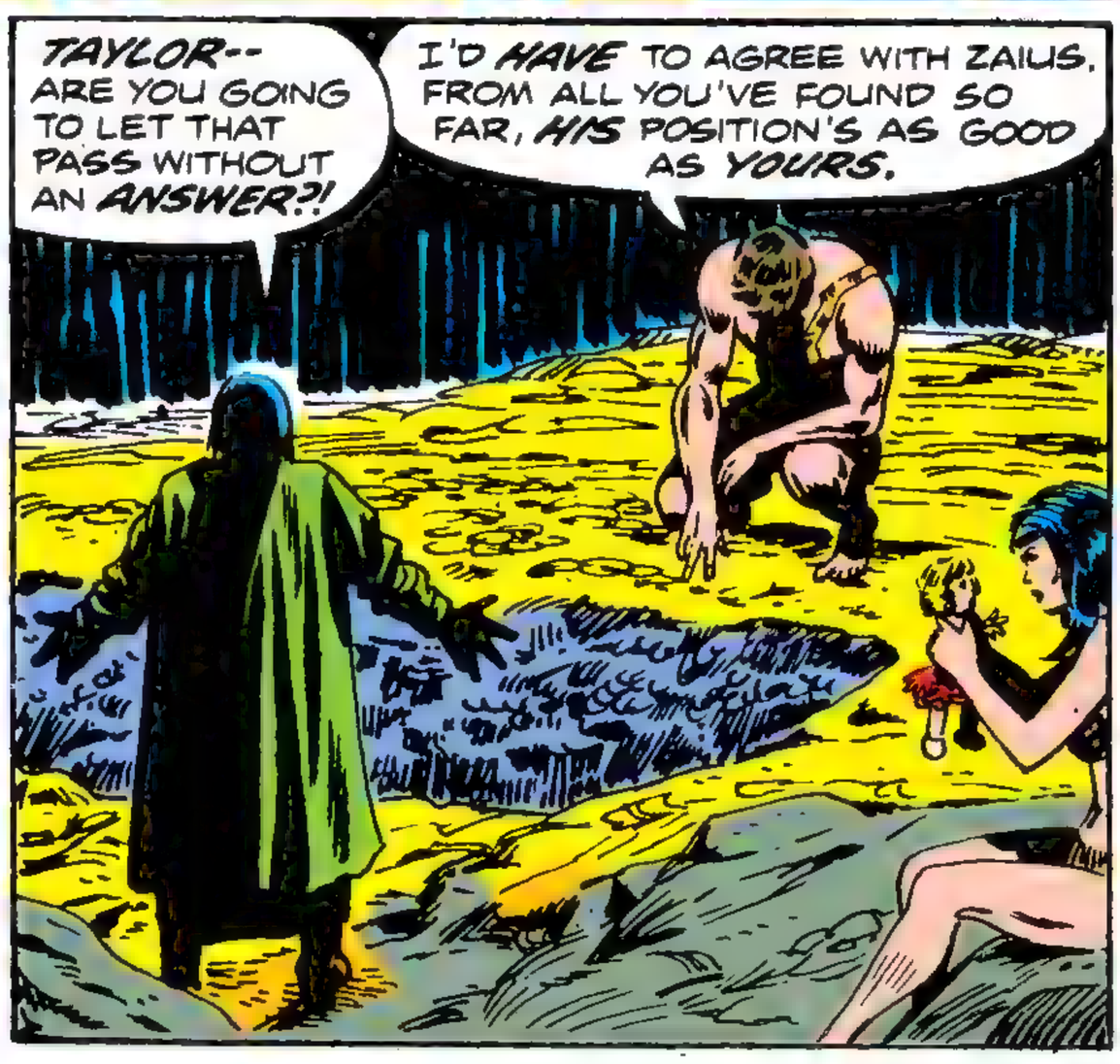
IN A CAVE DEEP WITHIN THE FORBIDDEN ZONE, DOCTOR ZIRA AND CORNELIUS HAVE PRODUCED ARCHEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE OF AN ADVANCED HUMAN CULTURE PREDATING HISTORY. BUT THEIR HOPES FOR EXONERATION FROM CHARGES OF HERESY SEEM PREMATURE...

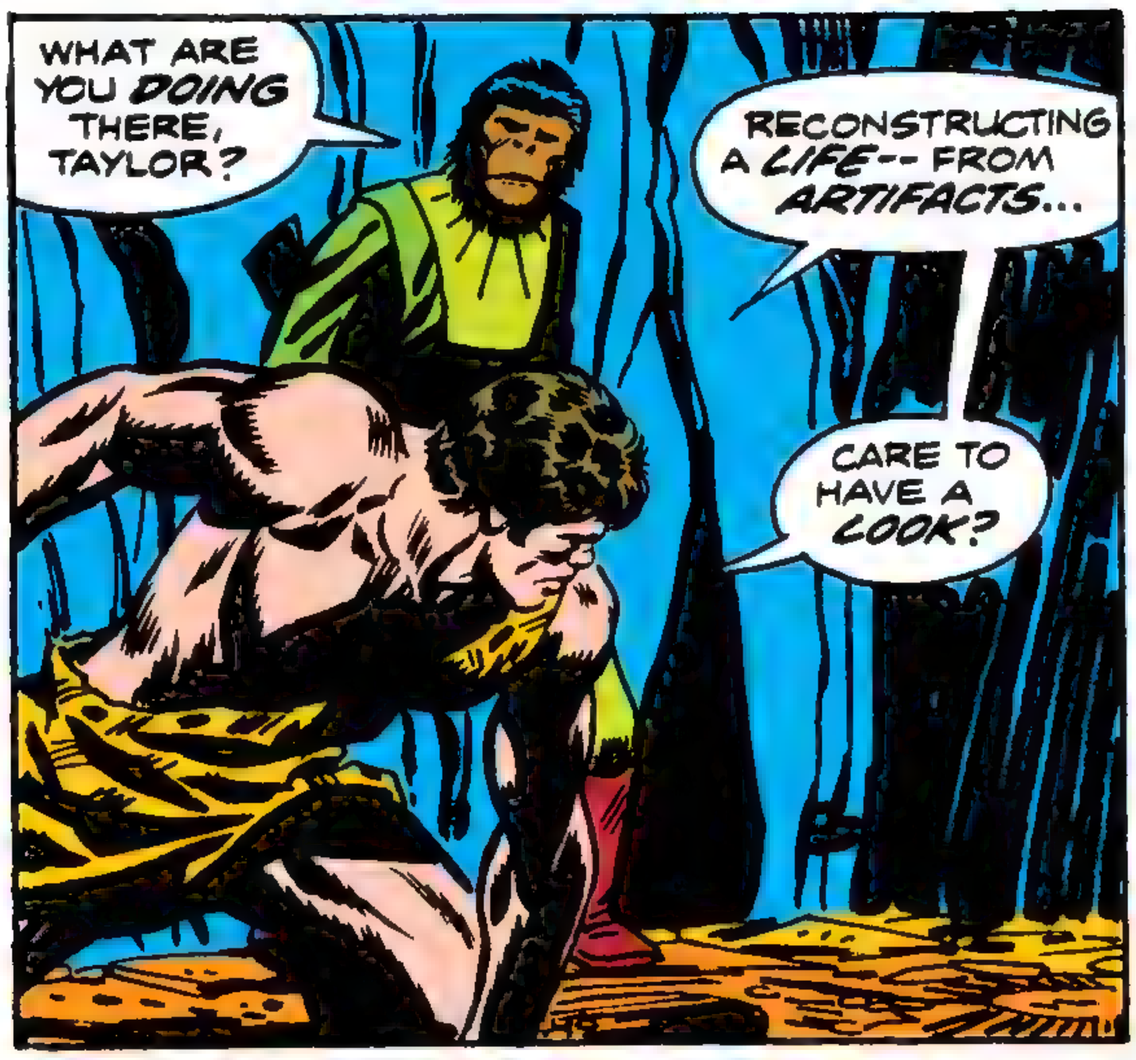
SURELY, DR. ZAIUS, YOU REALIZE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF--

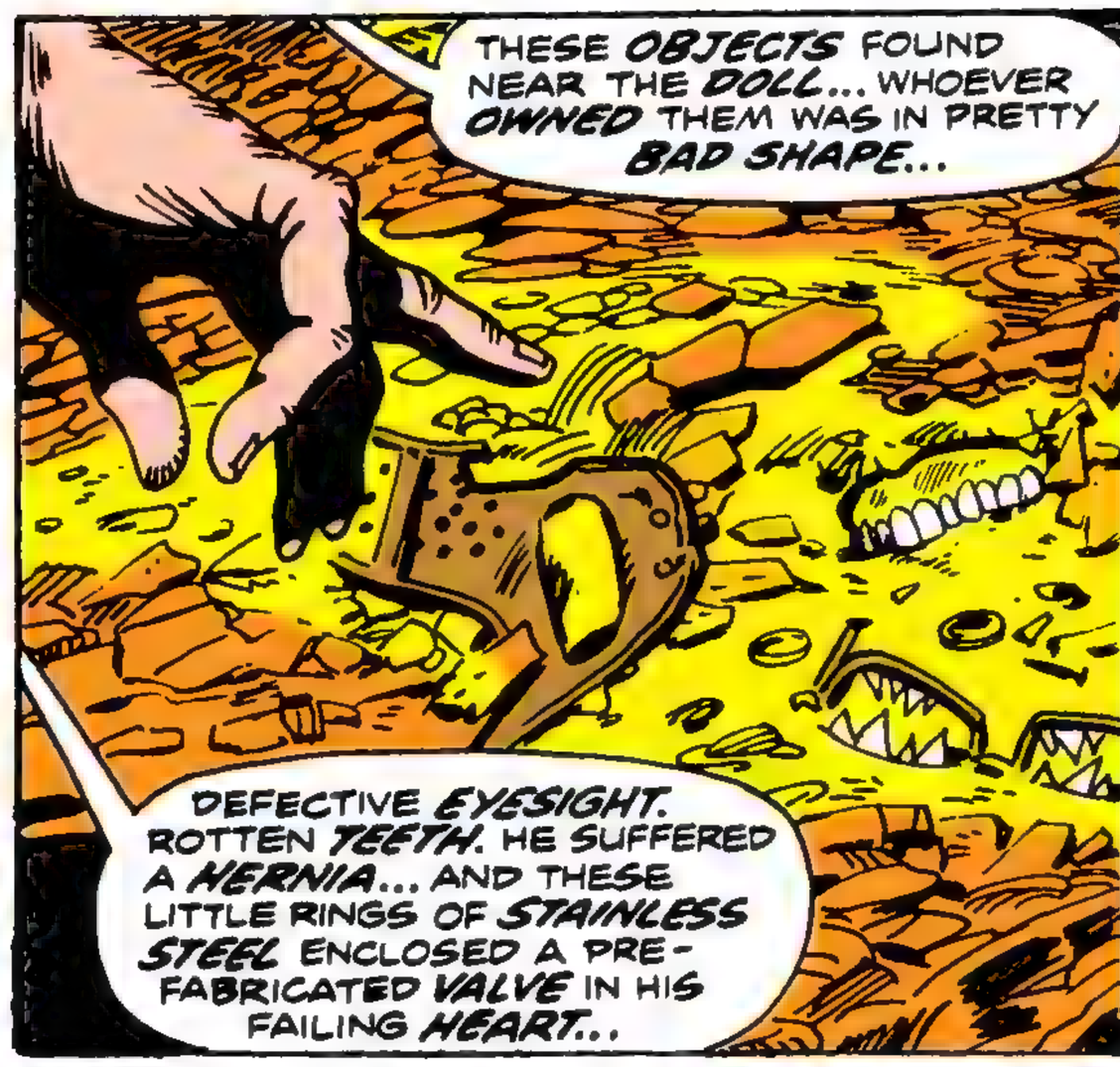
NO I DON'T, DR. ZIRA--AND I'LL THANK YOU TO REFRAIN FROM ATTRIBUTING YOUR SPECIOUS DEDUCTIONS TO ME. THE DOLL PROVES NOTHING.

MY GRAND-DAUGHTER PLAYS WITH HUMAN DOLLS.

WRITER: DOUG MOENCH
PENCILER: GEORGE TUSKA
INKERS: M. ESPOSITO, T. MORTELLARO
COLORIST: GEORGE ROUSSOS

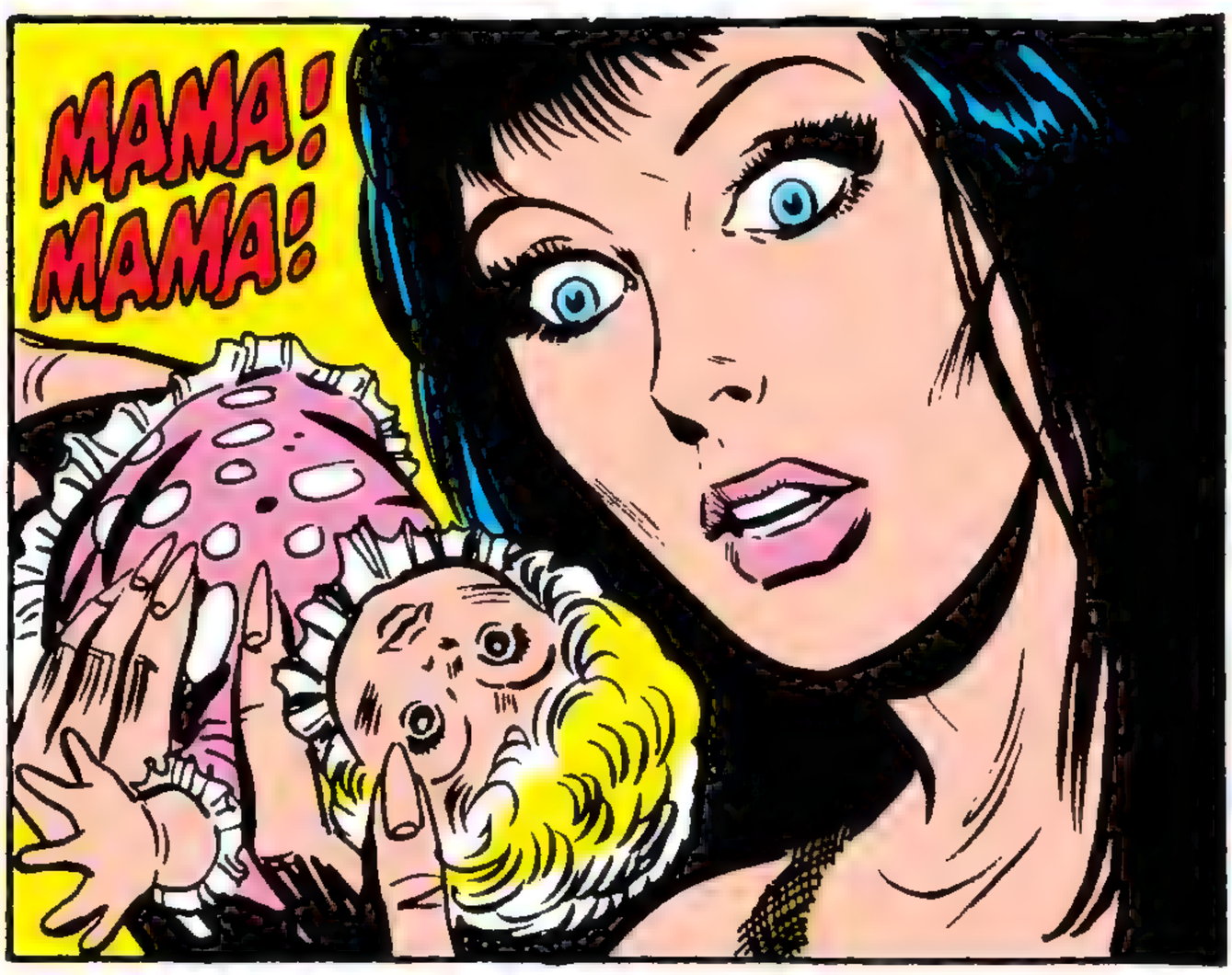



WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE, TAYLOR?
RECONSTRUCTING A LIFE-- FROM ARTIFACTS...
CARE TO HAVE A LOOK?


THESE OBJECTS FOUND NEAR THE DOLL... WHOEVER OWNED THEM WAS IN PRETTY BAD SHAPE...
DEFECTIVE EYESIGHT. ROTTEN TEETH. HE SUFFERED A HERNIA... AND THESE LITTLE RINGS OF STAINLESS STEEL ENCLOSED A PRE-FABRICATED VALVE IN HIS FAILING HEART...

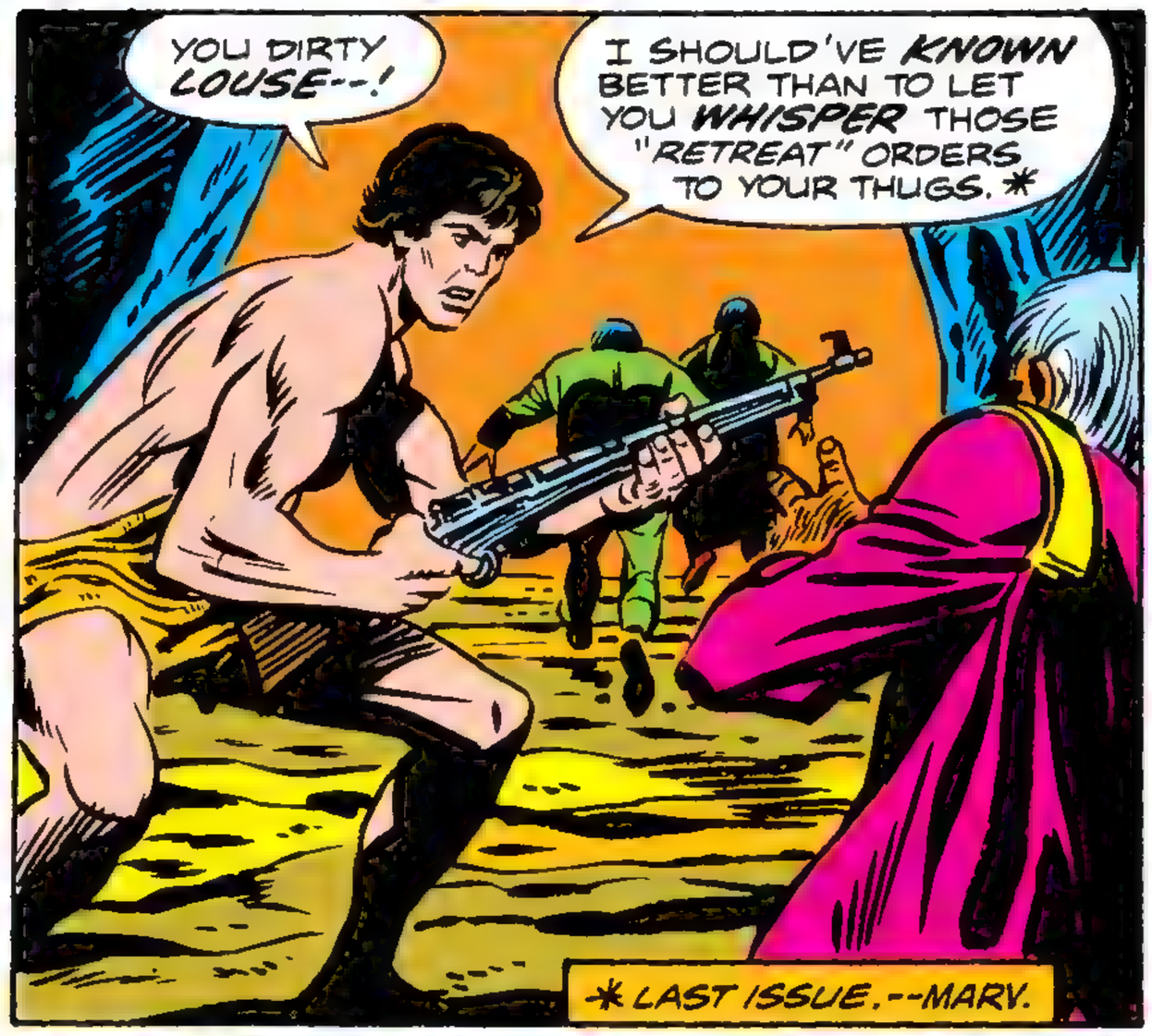
I DON'T SAY HE WAS A MAN LIKE AN EARTHMAN, BUT I'D CALL HIM A CLOSE RELATIVE... FOR HE WAS PLAGUED WITH MOST OF MAN'S ILLS.
YES, ZAIUS, FRAGILE AS HE WAS, HE CAME BEFORE YOU-- AND WAS SUPERIOR TO YOU.

THAT'S LUNACY. I COULD GIVE YOU AN ALTERNATE DESCRIPTION FOR EVERY ONE OF THESE OBJECTS THAT'S EQUALLY AS INVENTIVE AS YOURS.
BUT IT WOULD BE CONJECTURE-- NOT PROOF. SO I SUGGEST THAT YOU--

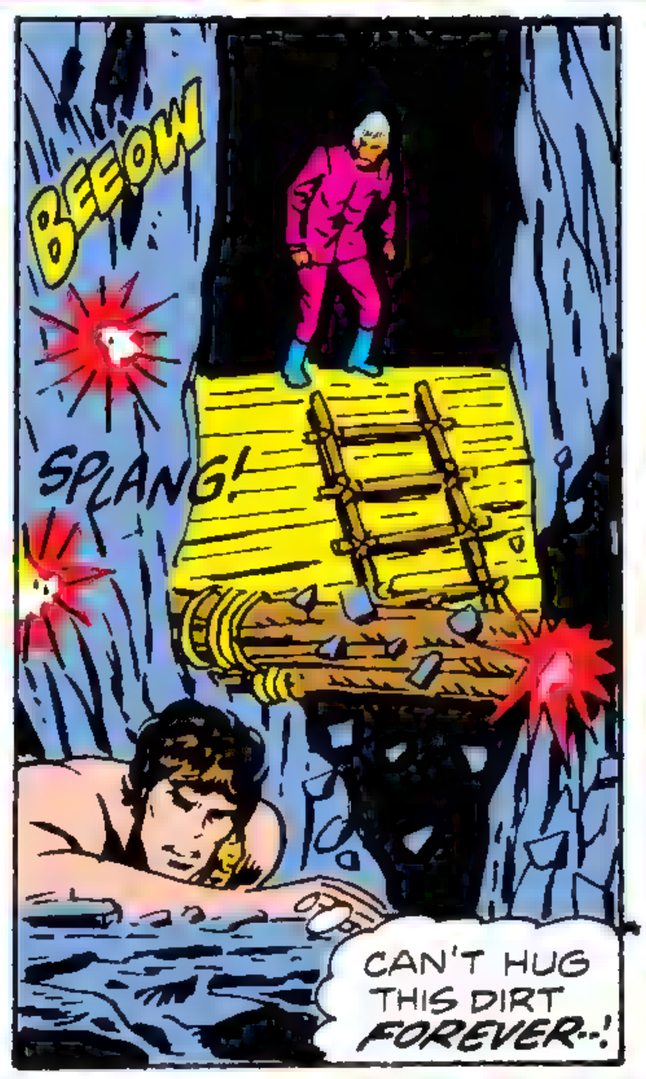

MAMA! MAMA!

DR. ZAIUS--! WOULD AN APE MAKE A HUMAN DOLL THAT TALKS?!
I...

KRACK!
LUCIUS--!

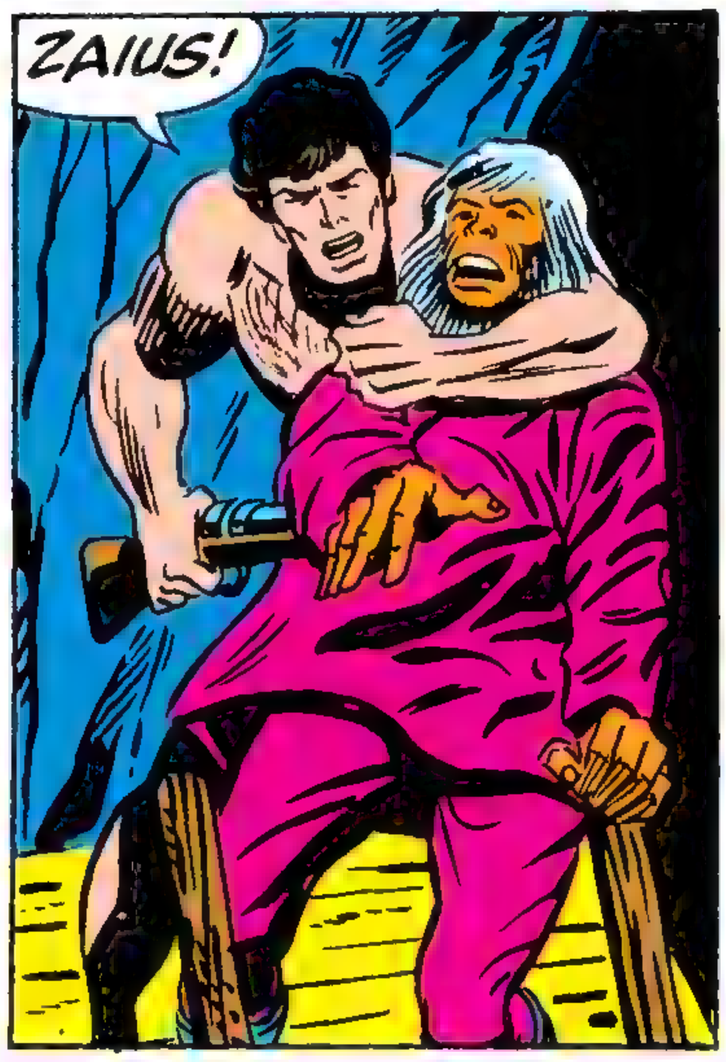

YOU DIRTY LOUSE--!
I SHOULD'VE KNOWN BETTER THAN TO LET YOU WHISPER THOSE "RETREAT" ORDERS TO YOUR THUGS. *
* LAST ISSUE.--MARY.

KRAK!
BLAM
KRAK!

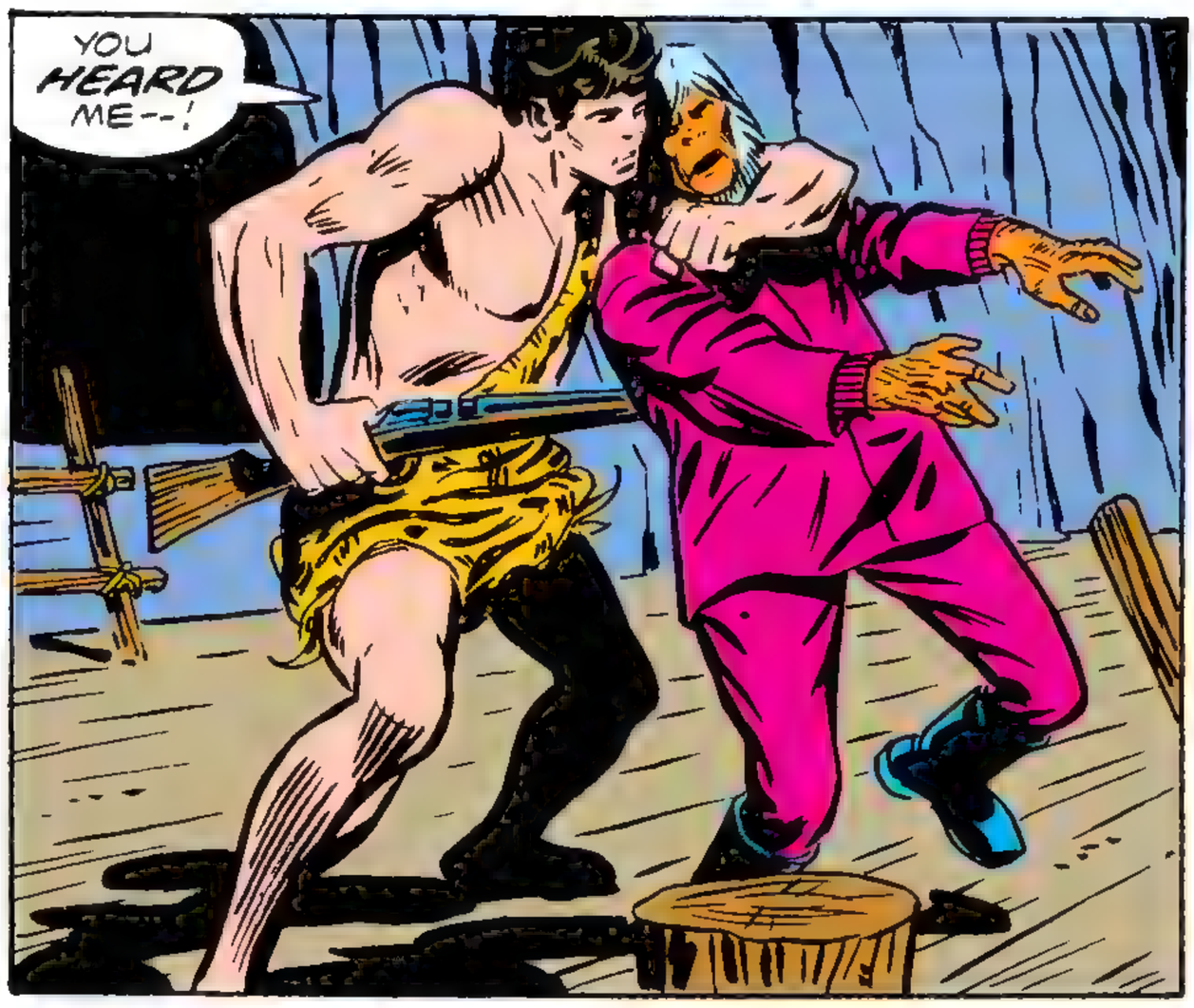

BEEOW
SPLANG!
CAN'T HUG THIS DIRT FOREVER--!

KRAK!
AND SINCE THERE AREN'T ANY TREES OR BUSHES AROUND HERE--
BLAM!

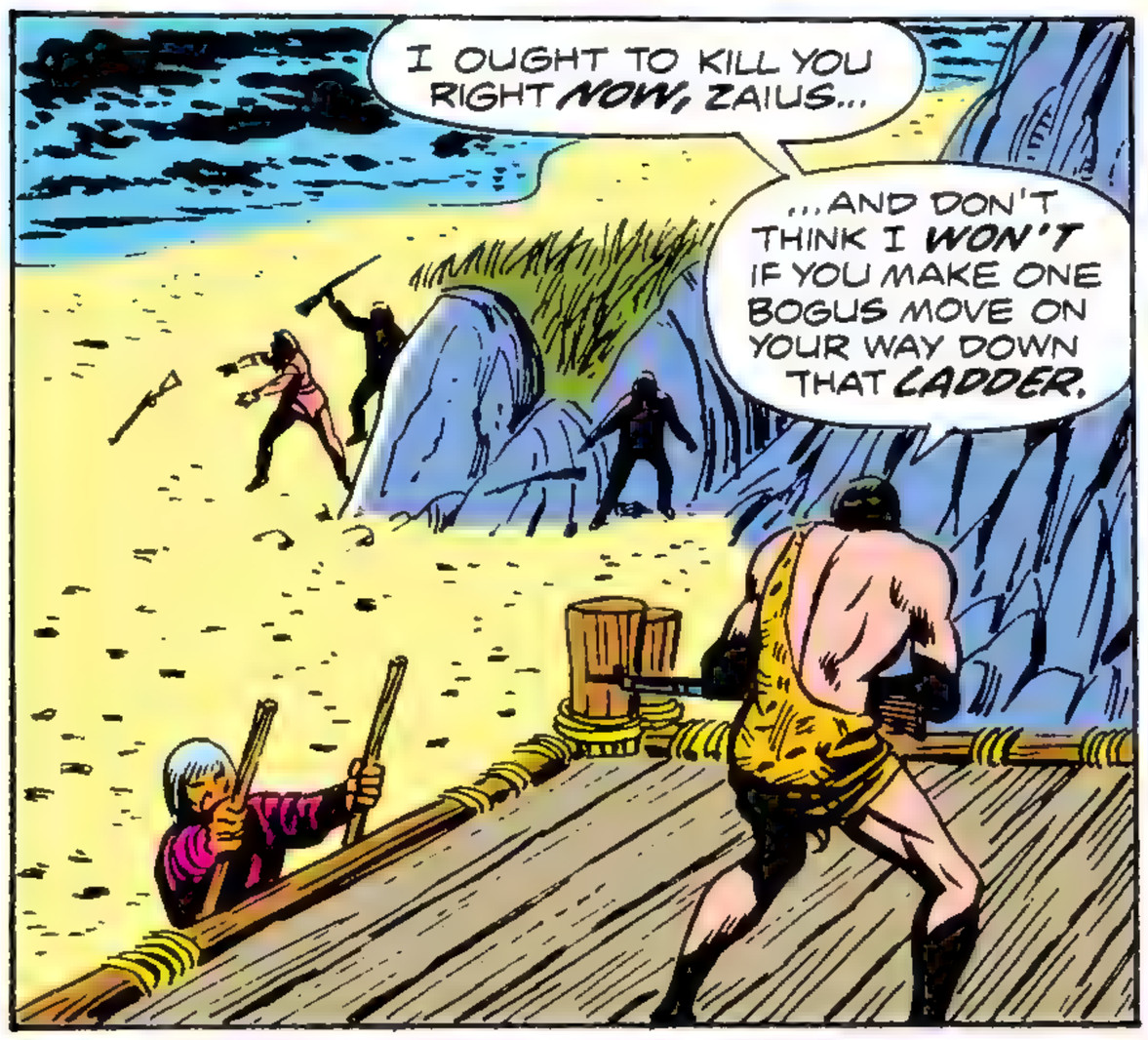
BLAM!
--IT LOOKS LIKE THE ONLY COVER AVAILABLE IS--
KRAK!

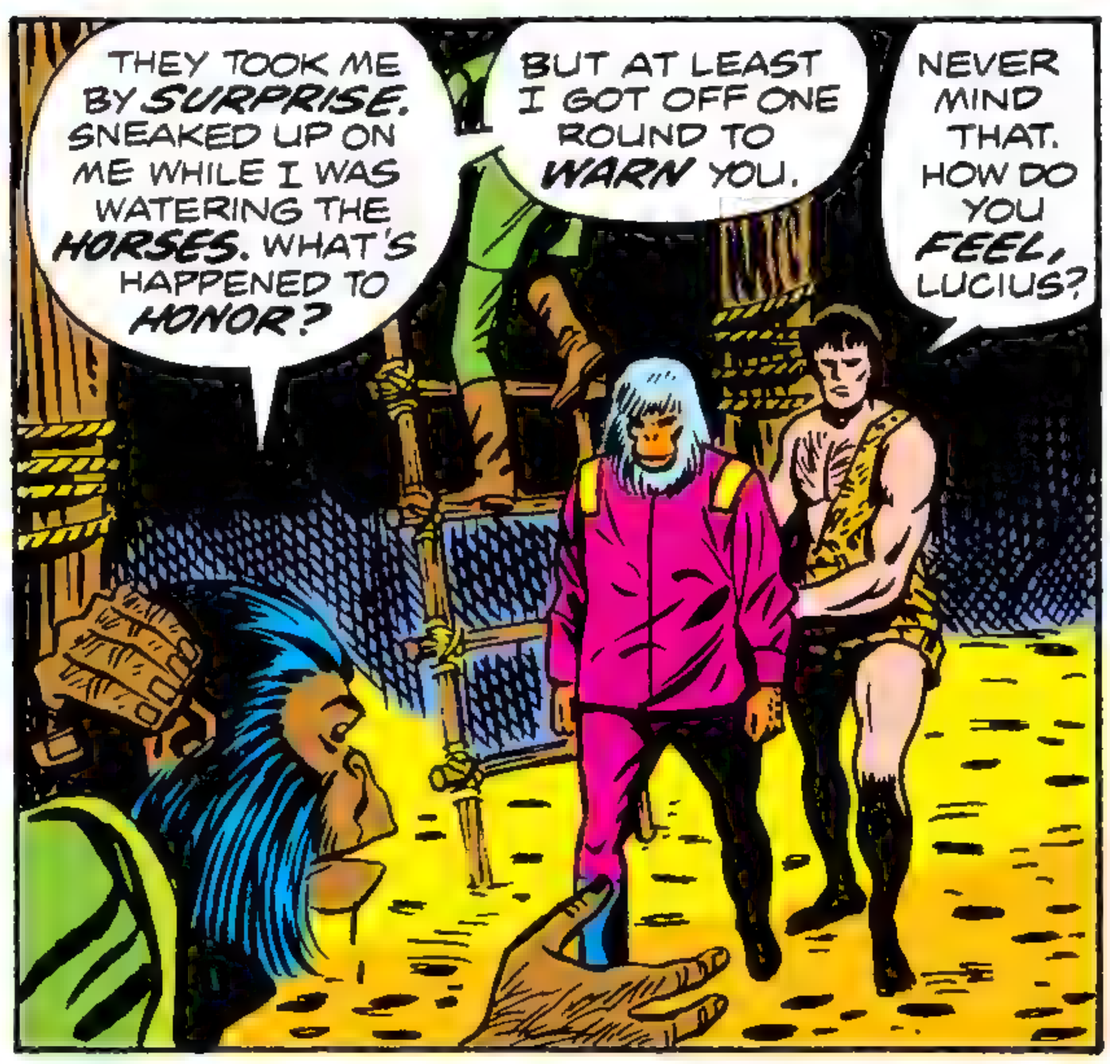

ZAIUS!

TELL THEM TO PULL BACK!!


YOU HEARD ME--!

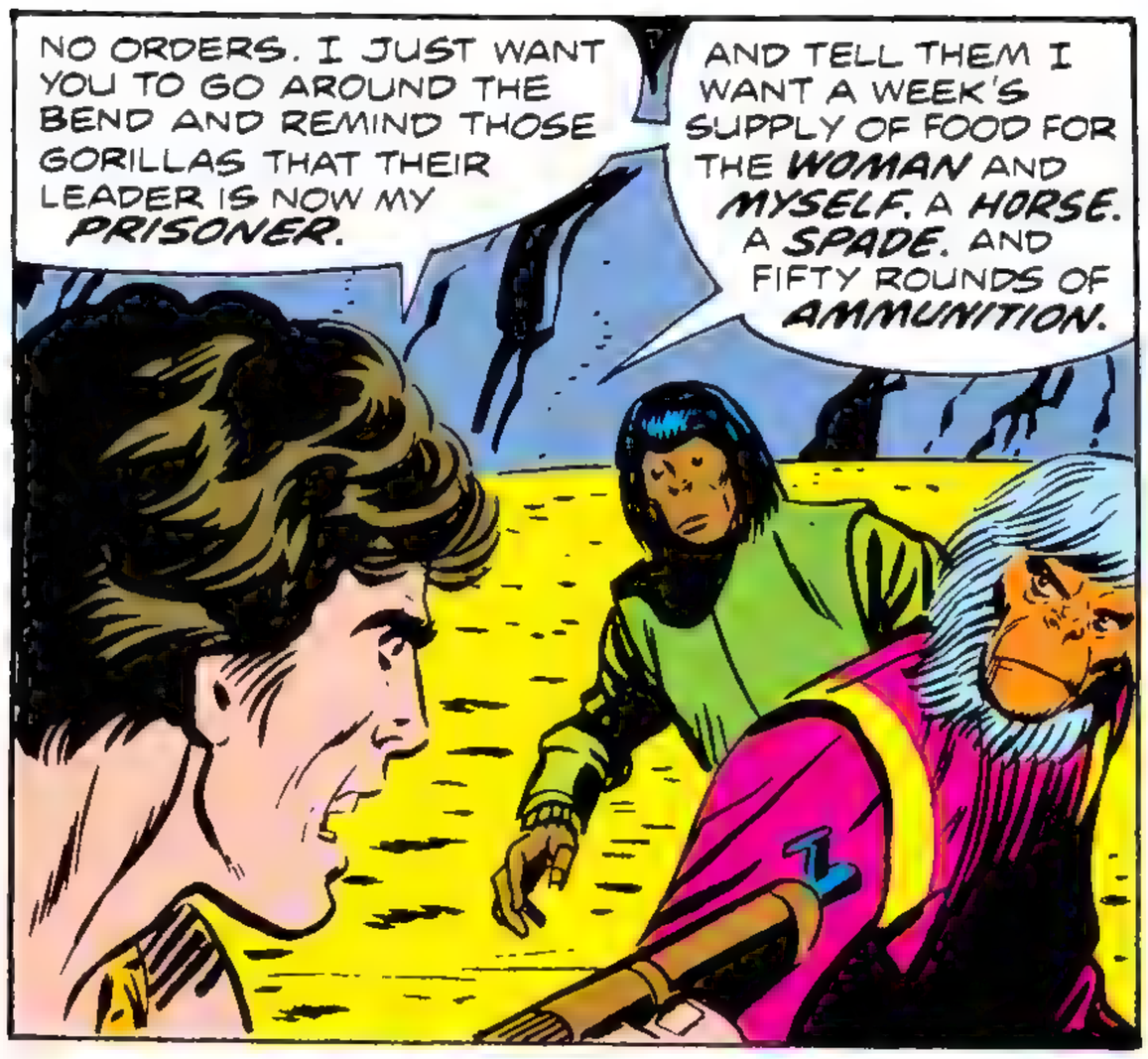
CEASE FIRE!
WITHDRAW!

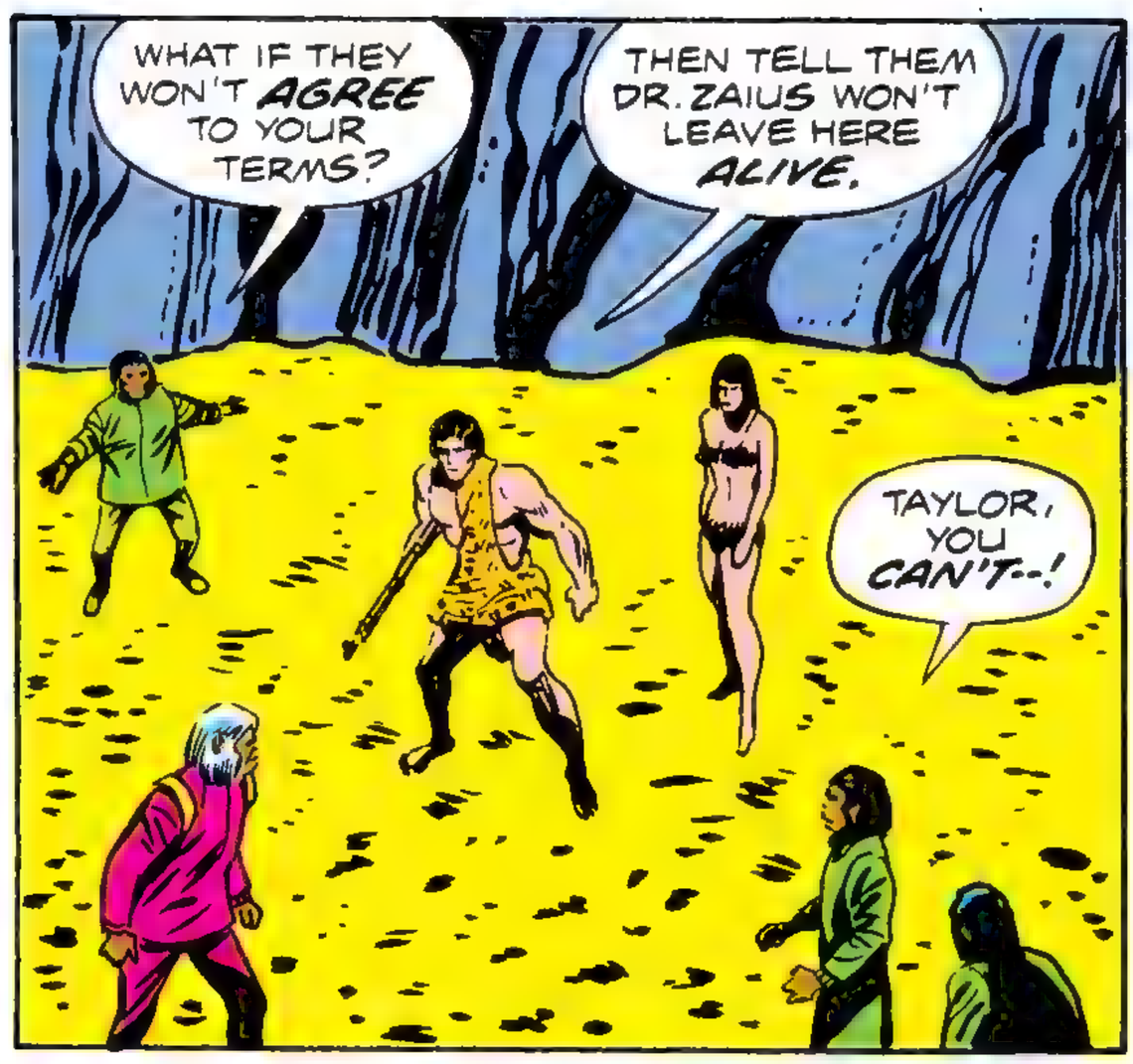

I OUGHT TO KILL YOU RIGHT NOW, ZAIUS...
...AND DON'T THINK I WON'T IF YOU MAKE ONE BOGUS MOVE ON YOUR WAY DOWN THAT LADDER.


THEY TOOK ME BY SURPRISE. SNEAKED UP ON ME WHILE I WAS WATERING THE HORSES. WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HONOR?
BUT AT LEAST I GOT OFF ONE ROUND TO WARN YOU.
NEVER MIND THAT. HOW DO YOU FEEL, LUCIUS?

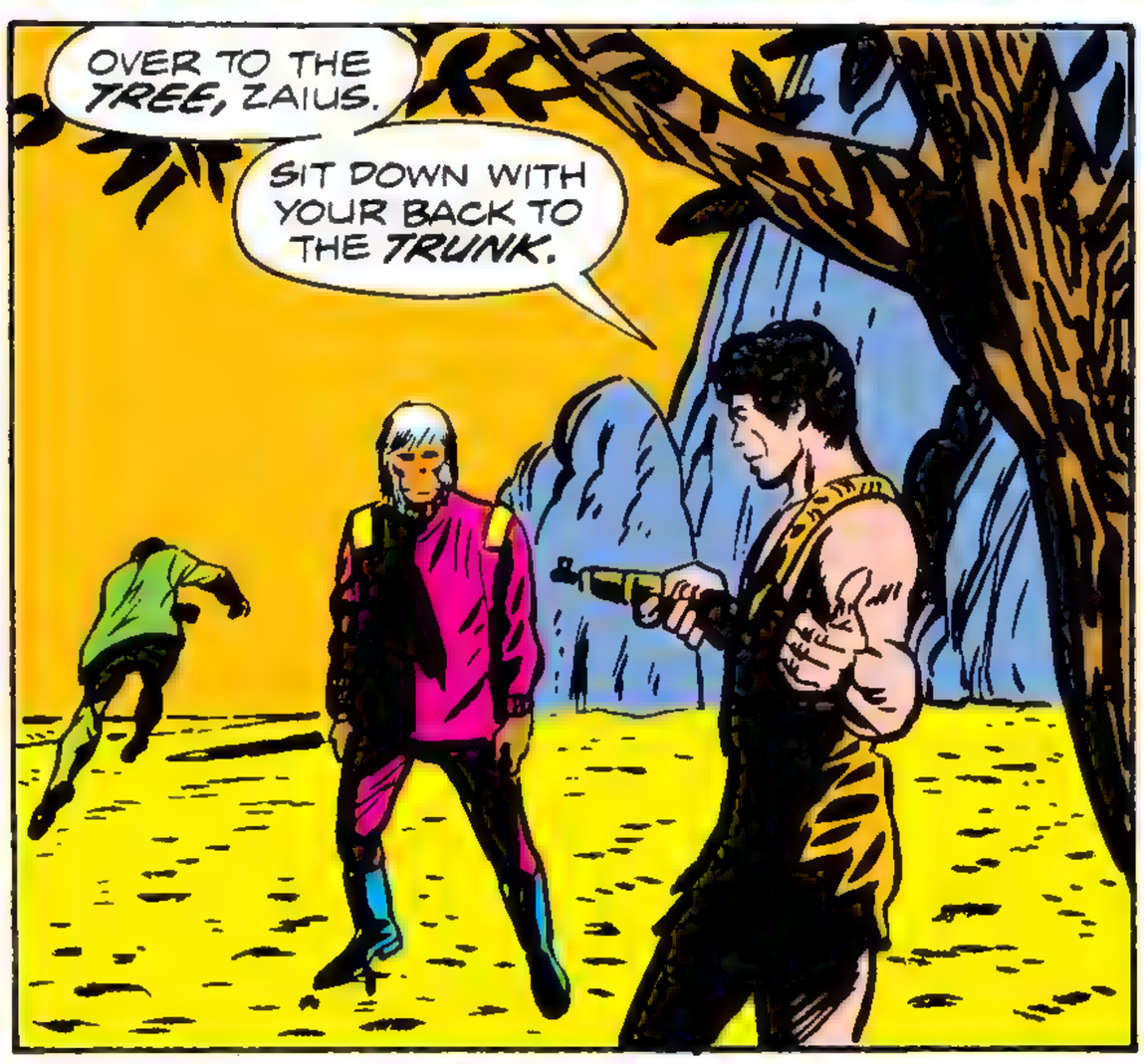
DISILLUSIONED-- BUT VINDICATED! I WAS RIGHT ALL ALONG-- YOU JUST CAN'T TRUST THE OLDER GENERATION. IT'S A MATTER OF VALUES...
THEY'VE TAKEN EVERYTHING-- HORSES-- SUPPLIES...

NOT EVERYTHING. THEY LEFT US A HOSTAGE...
LUCIUS-- WILL YOU DO ME A FAVOR?
AS LONG AS YOU DON'T GET THE IDEA YOU'RE GIVING ME ORDERS...


NO ORDERS. I JUST WANT YOU TO GO AROUND THE BEND AND REMIND THOSE GORILLAS THAT THEIR LEADER IS NOW MY PRISONER.
AND TELL THEM I WANT A WEEK'S SUPPLY OF FOOD FOR THE WOMAN AND MYSELF. A HORSE. A SPADE. AND FIFTY ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION.


WHAT IF THEY WON'T AGREE TO YOUR TERMS?
THEN TELL THEM DR. ZAIUS WON'T LEAVE HERE ALIVE.
TAYLOR, YOU CAN'T--!

YOU'RE WRONG, DR. ZIRA. HE'S A BORN KILLER.
DELIVER HIS MESSAGE.

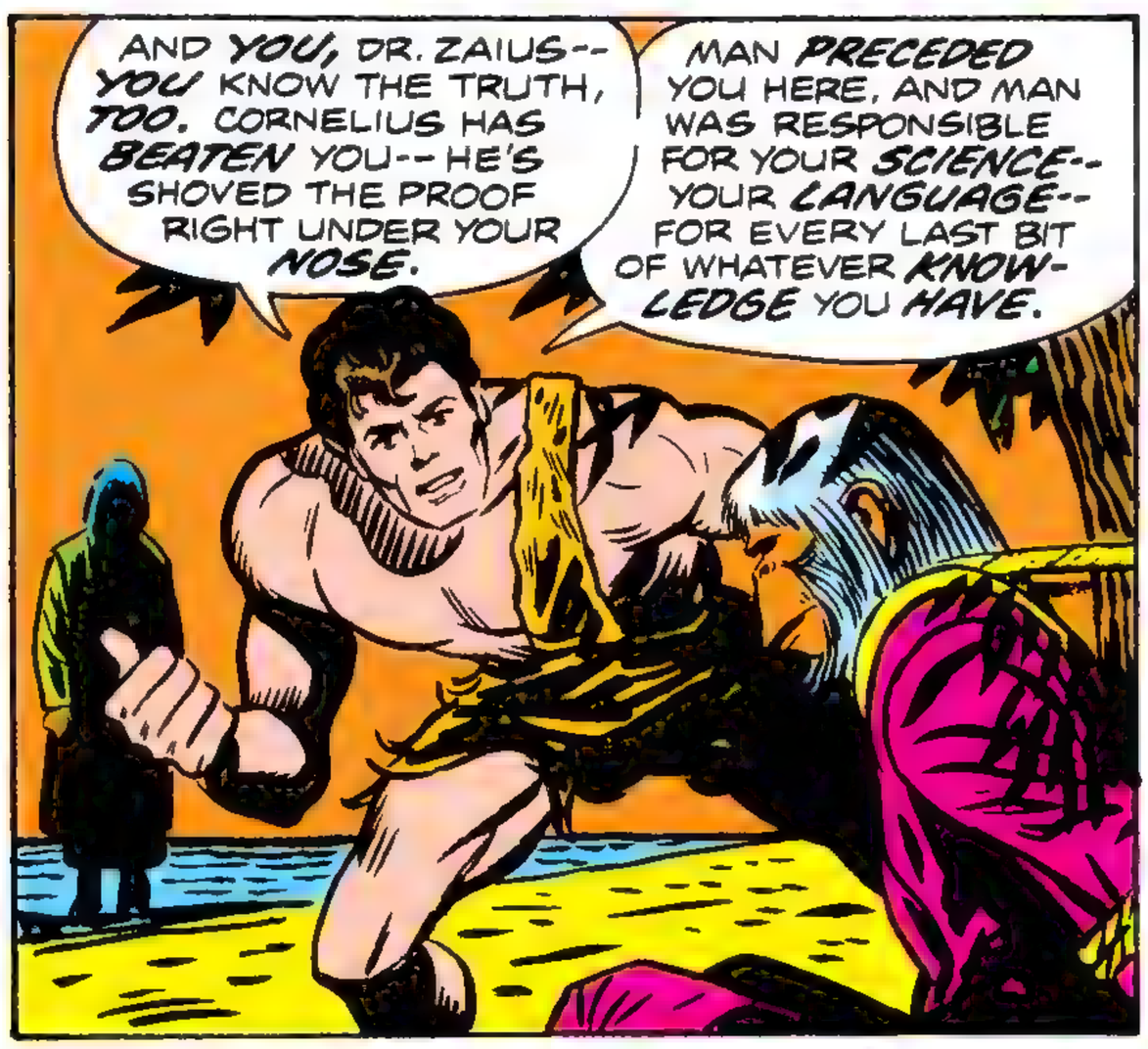

OVER TO THE TREE, ZAIUS.
SIT DOWN WITH YOUR BACK TO THE TRUNK.

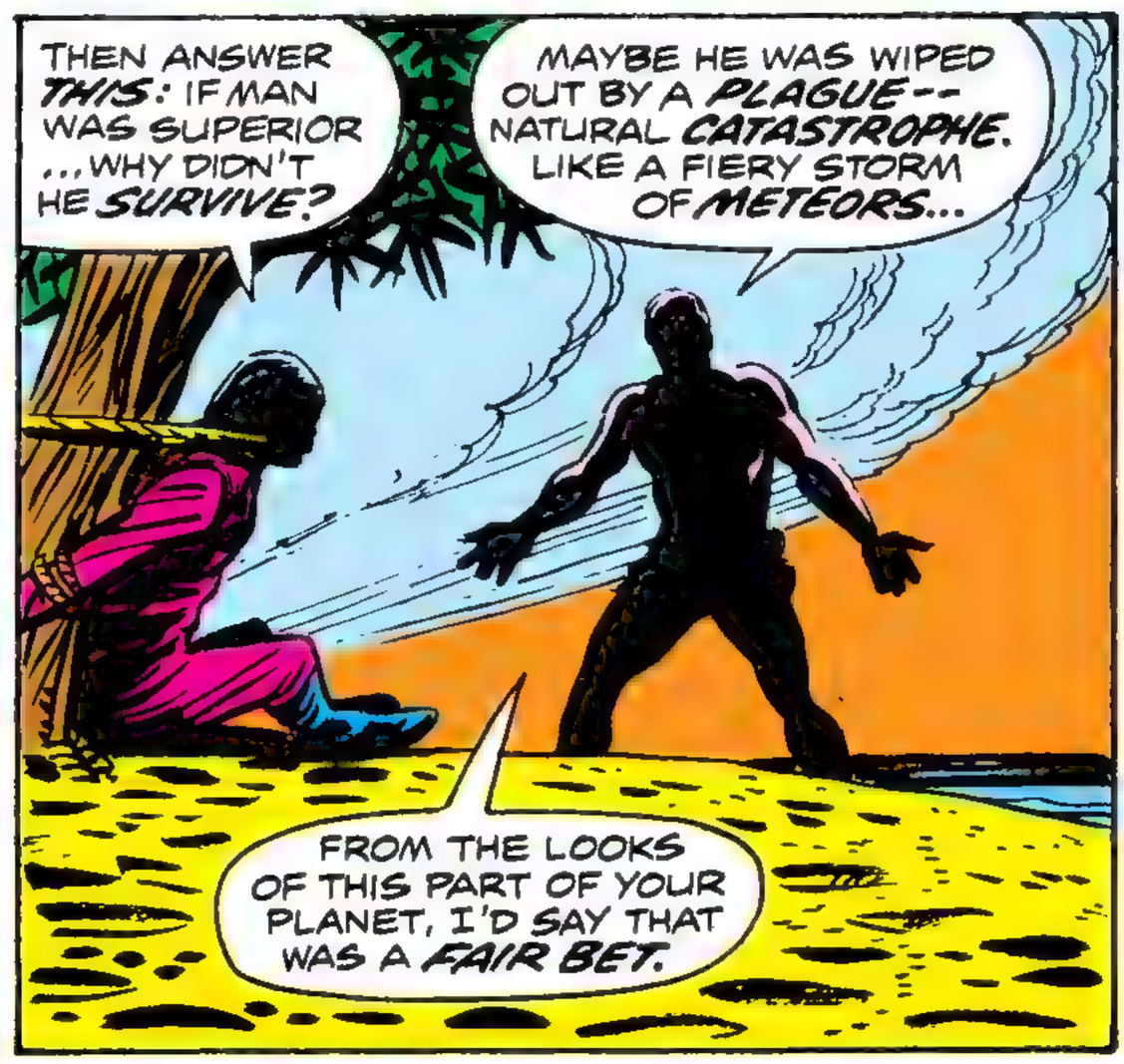
NOW, MINISTER OF "SCIENCE"-- LET ME EXPLAIN CERTAIN PRINCIPLES OF STRESS AND STRAIN.
IF YOU SHOULD EXERT PRESSURE TO REMOVE THESE BONDS, YOU'D ONLY SUCCEED IN CHOKING YOURSELF TO DEATH. IT'LL BE SUICIDE, YOU SEE...?

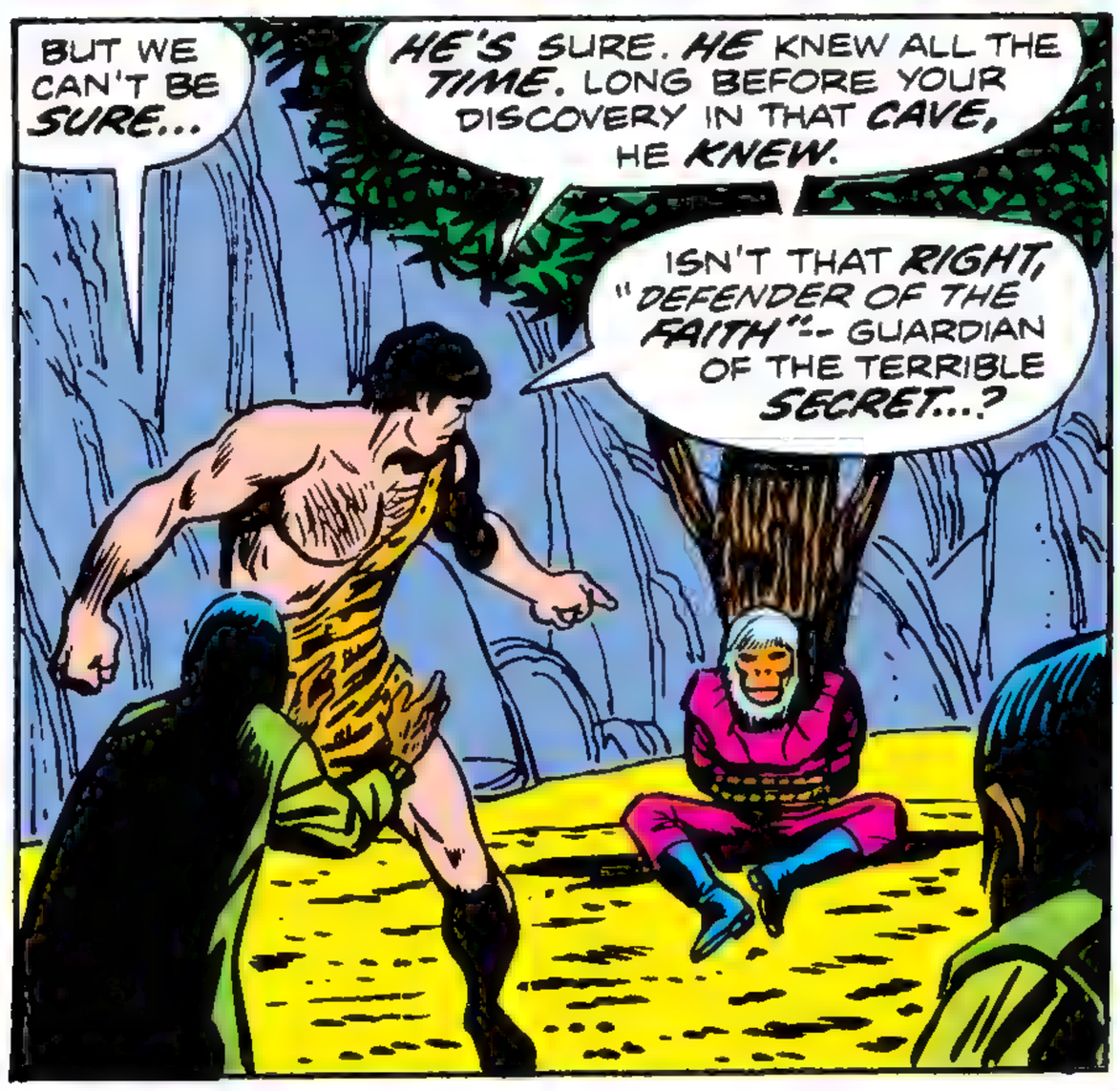
TAYLOR, PLEASE-- DON'T TREAT HIM THAT WAY.
WHY NOT? WASN'T I HUMILIATED? BY ALL OF YOU
DIDN'T YOU LEAD ME AROUND ON A LEASH...?

THAT WAS DIFFERENT. WE THOUGHT YOU WERE--

--INFERIOR.
AND NOW YOU KNOW THE TRUTH.


AND YOU, DR. ZAIUS-- YOU KNOW THE TRUTH, TOO. CORNELIUS HAS BEATEN YOU-- HE'S SHOVED THE PROOF RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSE.
MAN PRECEDED YOU HERE, AND MAN WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR SCIENCE-- YOUR LANGUAGE-- FOR EVERY LAST BIT OF WHATEVER KNOWLEDGE YOU HAVE.

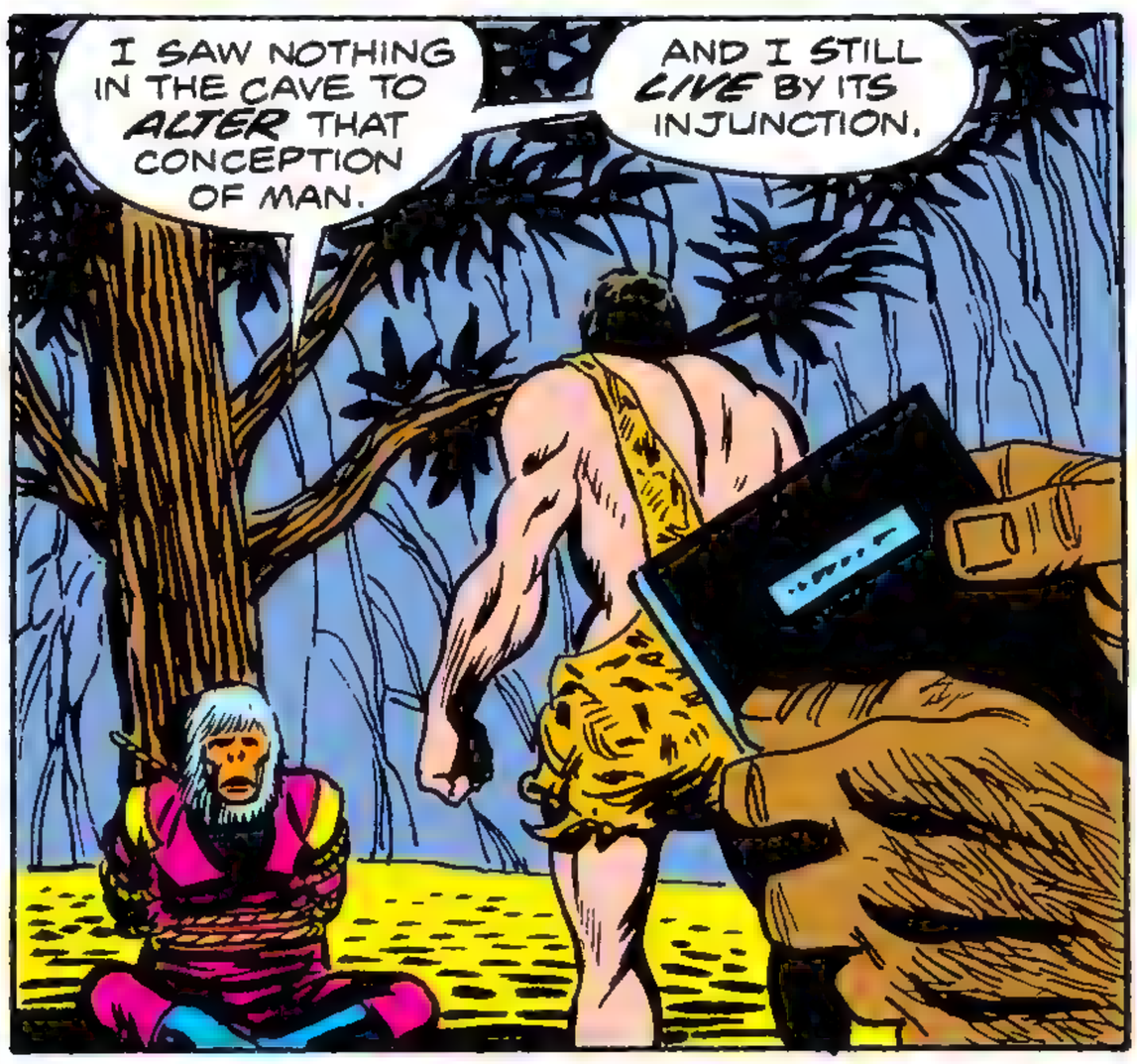

THEN ANSWER THIS: IF MAN WAS SUPERIOR ...WHY DIDN'T HE SURVIVE?
MAYBE HE WAS WIPED OUT BY A PLAGUE-- NATURAL CATASTROPHE. LIKE A FIERY STORM OF METEORS...
FROM THE LOOKS OF THIS PART OF YOUR PLANET, I'D SAY THAT WAS A FAIR BET.

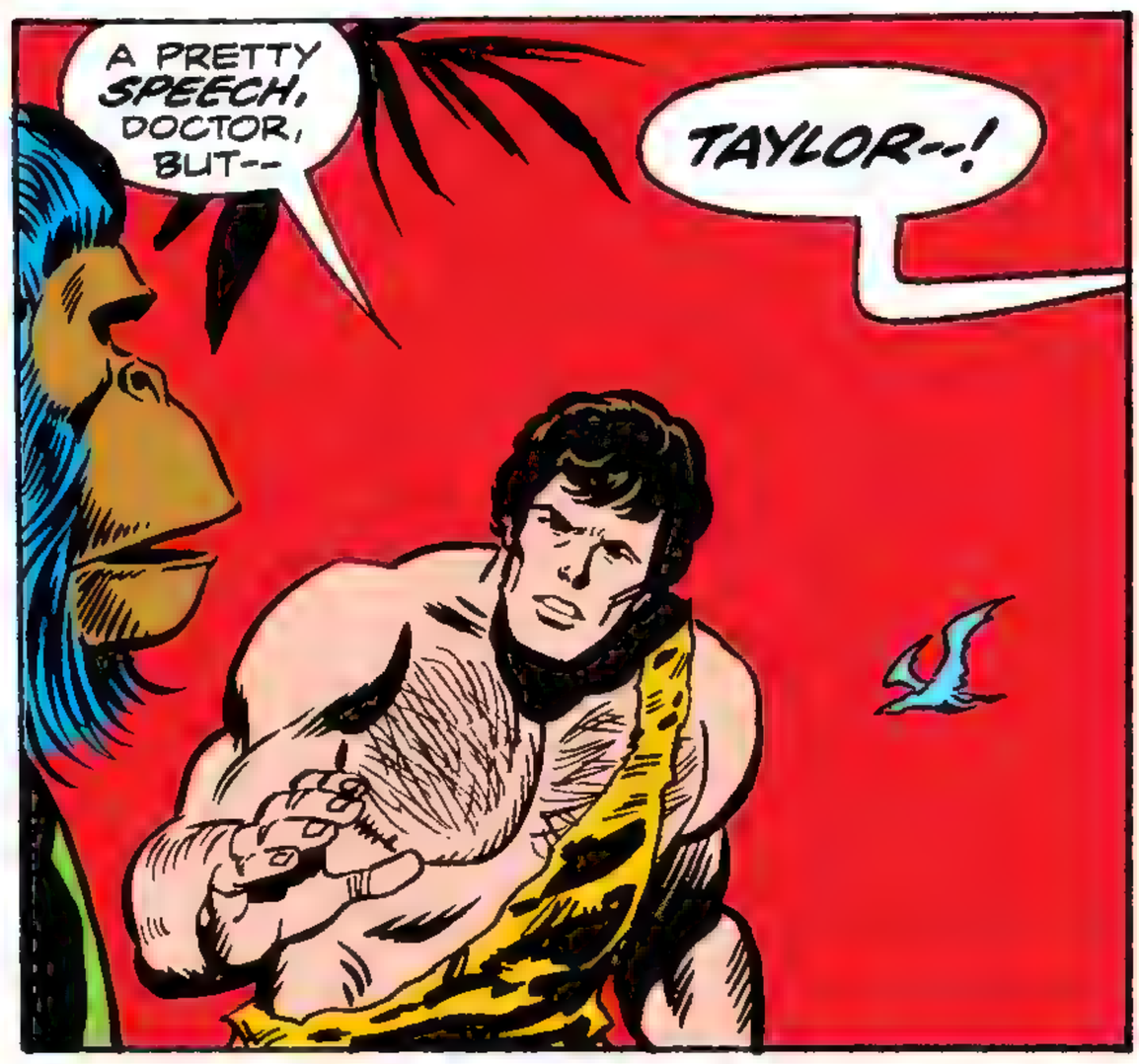

BUT WE CAN'T BE SURE...
HE'S SURE. HE KNEW ALL THE TIME. LONG BEFORE YOUR DISCOVERY IN THAT CAVE, HE KNEW.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, "DEFENDER OF THE FAITH"-- GUARDIAN OF THE TERRIBLE SECRET...?

IS THAT TRUE, DR. ZAIUS?
WHAT I KNOW OF MAN WAS WRITTEN LONG AGO-- SET DOWN BY THE WISEST APE OF ALL...OUR LAWGIVER.
OPEN MY BREAST POCKET, DR. CORNELIUS... YOU KNOW WHAT IS IN IT.

READ IT TO HIM. THE TWENTY-THIRD SCROLL ...NINTH VERSE.

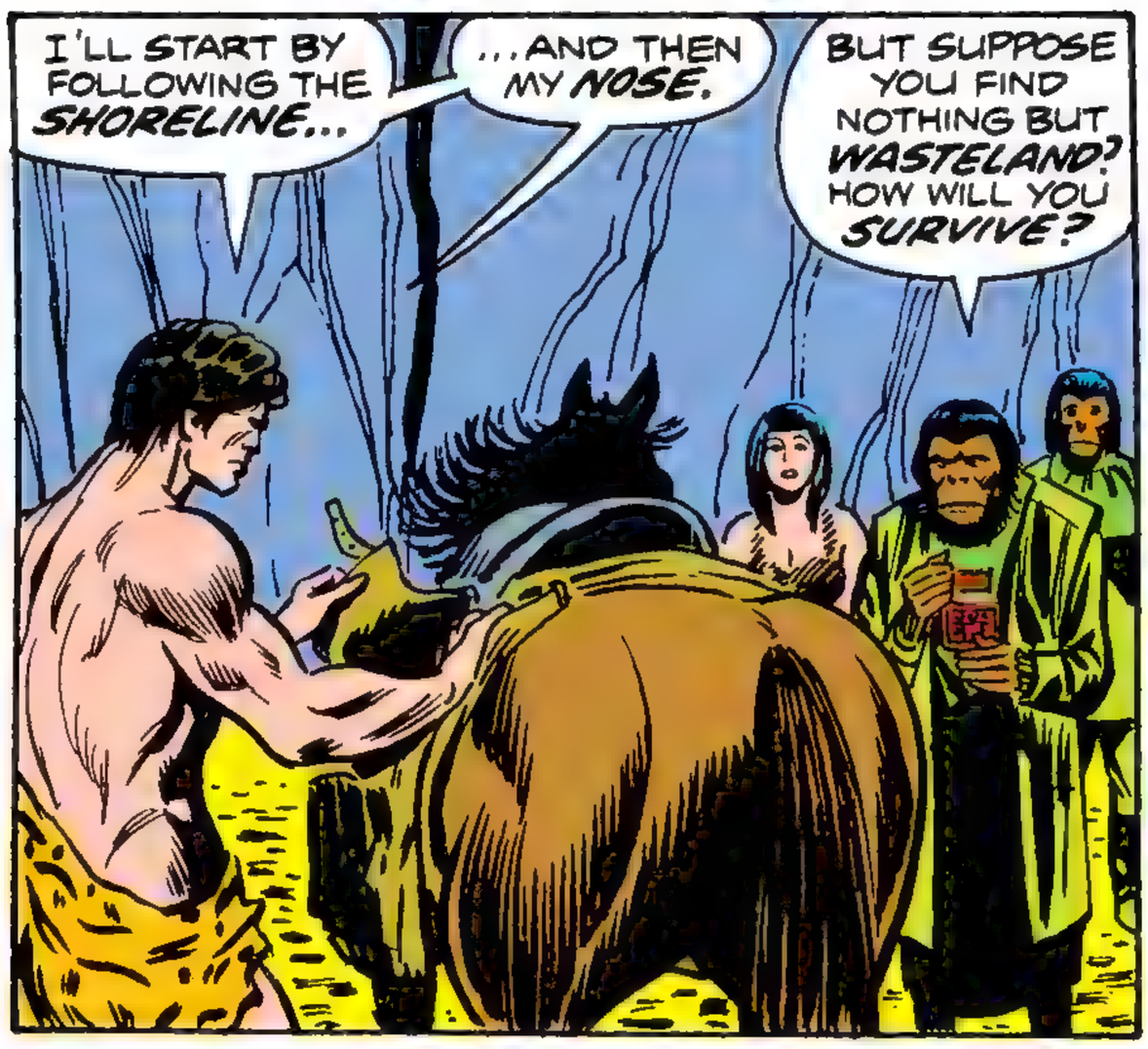
"BEWARE THE BEAST MAN, FOR HE IS THE DEVIL'S PAWN. ALONE AMONG GOD'S PRIMATES, HE KILLS FOR SPORT, OR LUST, OR GREED. YES, HE WILL MURDER HIS BROTHER TO POSSESS HIS BROTHER'S LAND.
"LET HIM NOT BREED IN GREAT NUMBERS, FOR HE WILL MAKE A DESERT OF HIS HOME AND YOURS. SHUN HIM. DRIVE HIM BACK INTO HIS JUNGLE LAIR: FOR HE IS THE HARBINGER OF DEATH!"


I SAW NOTHING IN THE CAVE TO ALTER THAT CONCEPTION OF MAN.
AND I STILL LIVE BY ITS INJUNCTION.

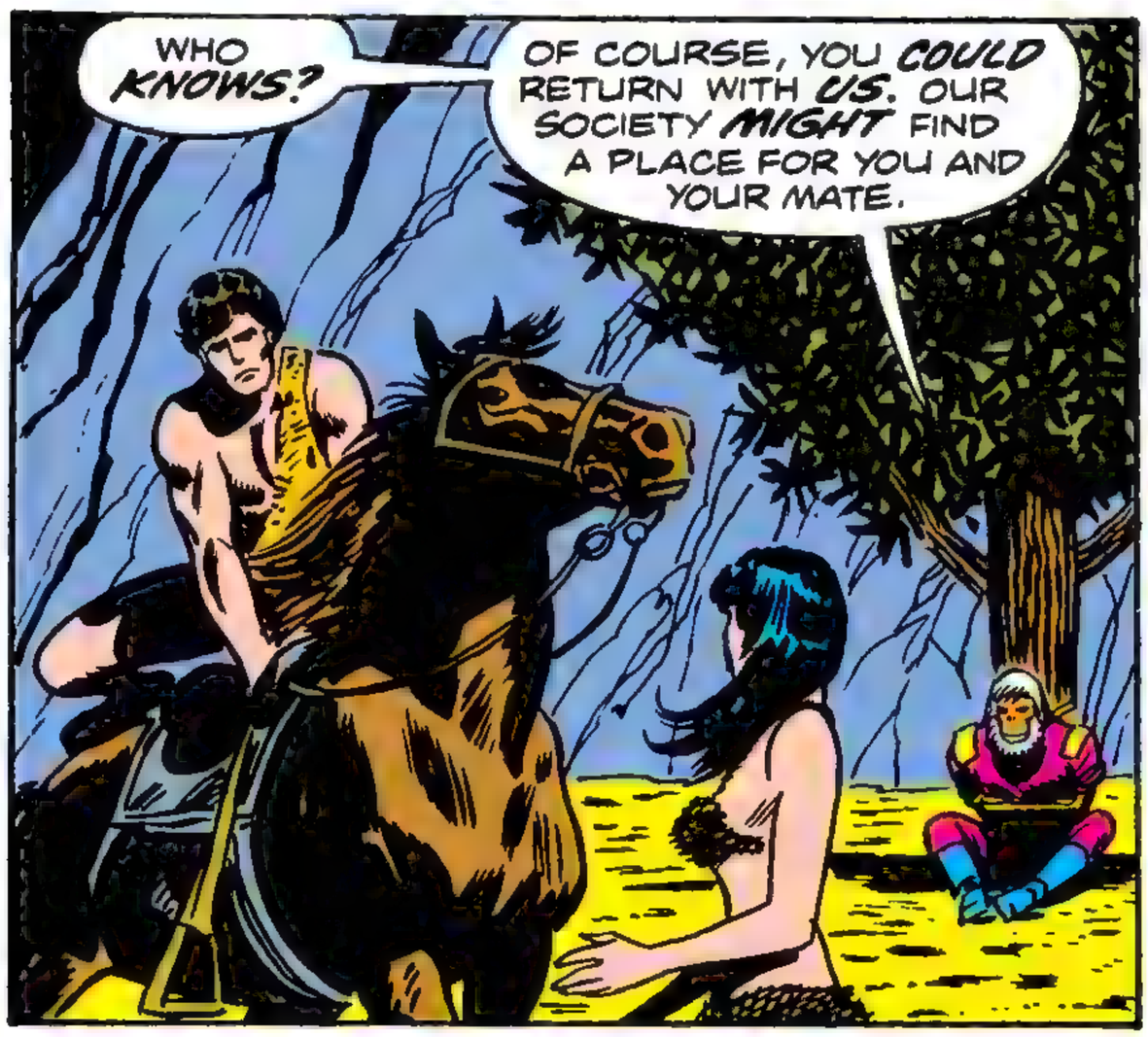

A PRETTY SPEECH, DOCTOR, BUT--
TAYLOR--!

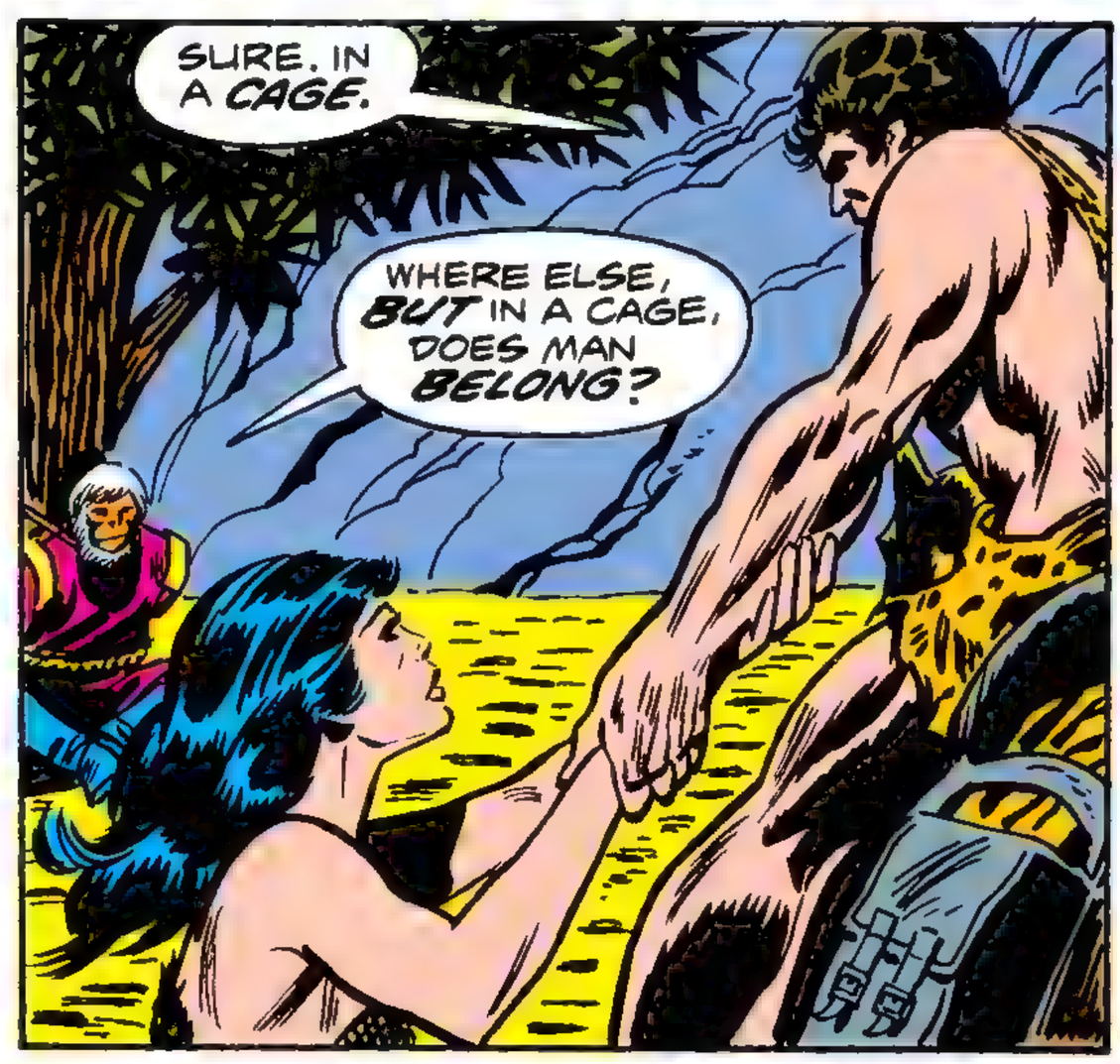
STAY RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE-- AND LET THE YOUTH COME FORWARD ALONE.

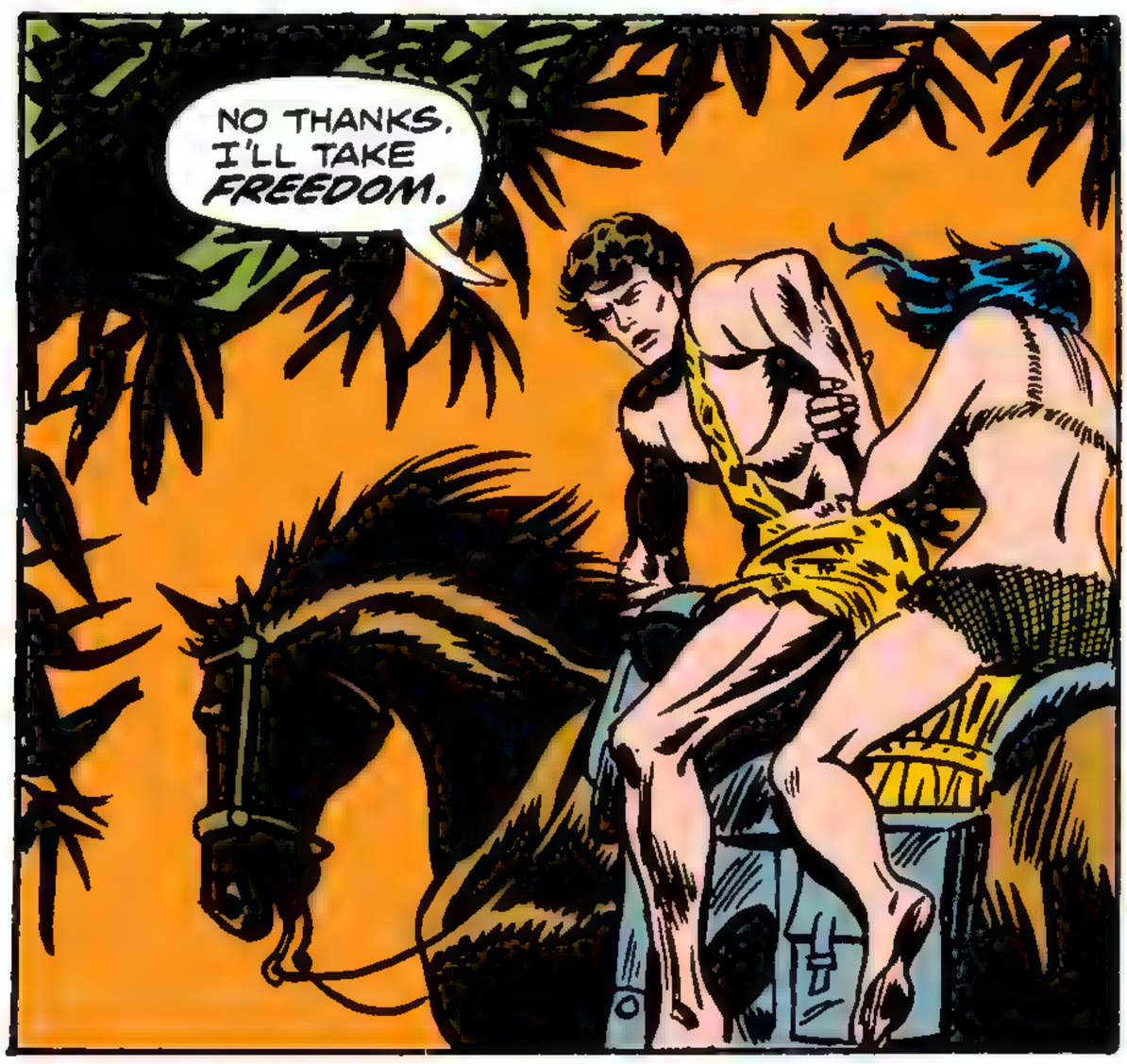
THEY THINK YOU'RE BEHAVING FOOLISHLY. I MUST SAY I AGREE.
WHERE WILL YOU GO?


I'LL START BY FOLLOWING THE SHORELINE...
...AND THEN MY NOSE.
BUT SUPPOSE YOU FIND NOTHING BUT WASTELAND? HOW WILL YOU SURVIVE?

HE WON'T SURVIVE.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT SORT OF LIFE AWAITS YOU OUT THERE, TAYLOR? THAT OF AN ANIMAL. IF YOU AREN'T EVENTUALLY HUNTED DOWN AND KILLED BY APES, SOME JUNGLE BEAST WILL DEVOUR YOU.
THEN THERE IS ANOTHER JUNGLE?


WHO KNOWS?
OF COURSE, YOU COULD RETURN WITH US. OUR SOCIETY MIGHT FIND A PLACE FOR YOU AND YOUR MATE.


SURE. IN A CAGE.
WHERE ELSE, BUT IN A CAGE, DOES MAN BELONG?


NO THANKS. I'LL TAKE FREEDOM.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME ALONG?
WE... CAN'T...
IT'S BETTER THAN GOING TO PRISON FOR HERESY...

THEY CAN'T CONVICT US OF THAT NOW. YOU PROVED OUR INNOCENCE. BESIDES--
--DR. ZAIUS' CULTURE IS OUR CULTURE.

GOOD LUCK THEN...

AND DR. ZIRA... I'D LIKE TO KISS YOU GOOD-BYE.
WELL... I...

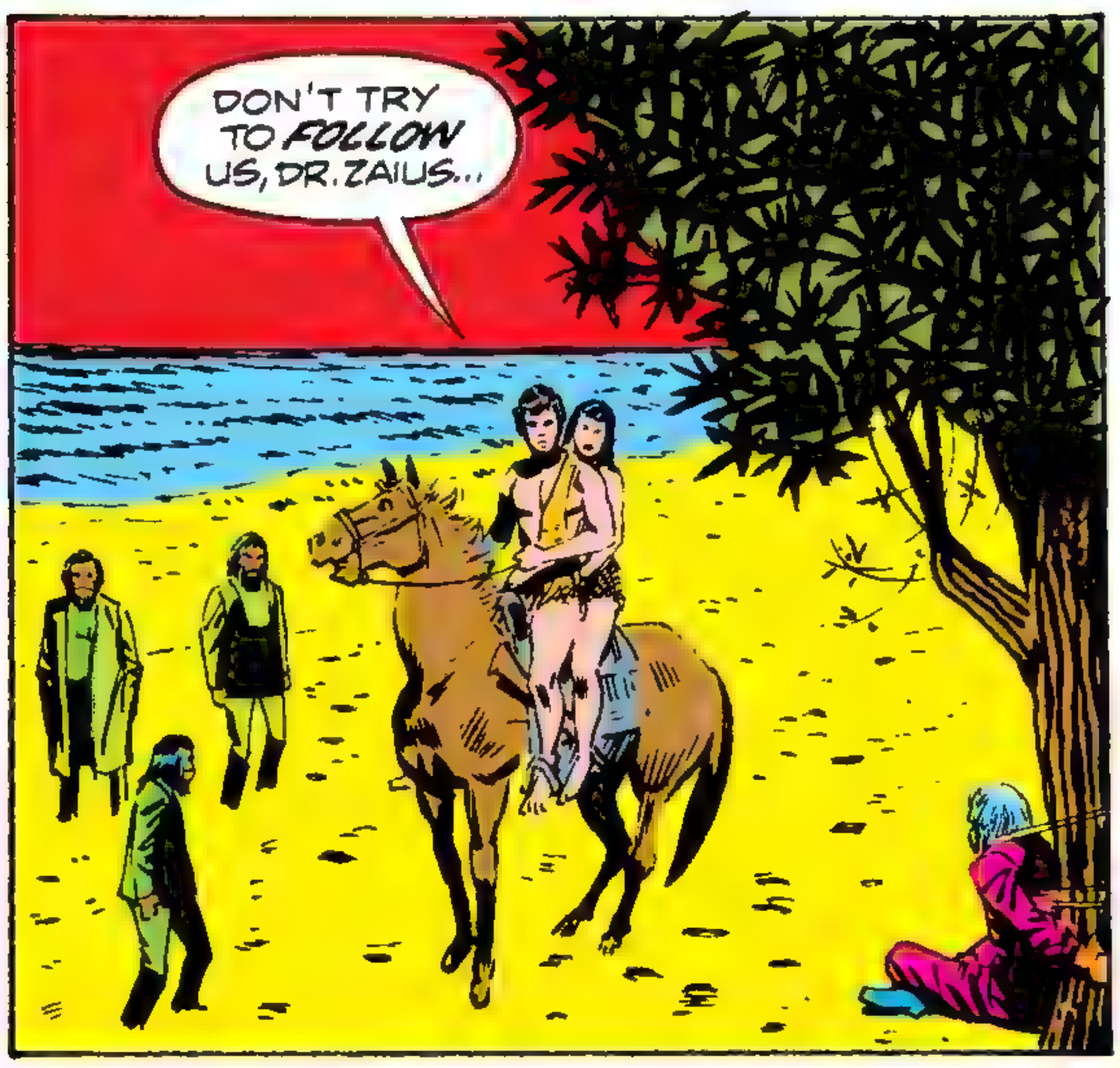
ALL RIGHT, TAYLOR, BUT...

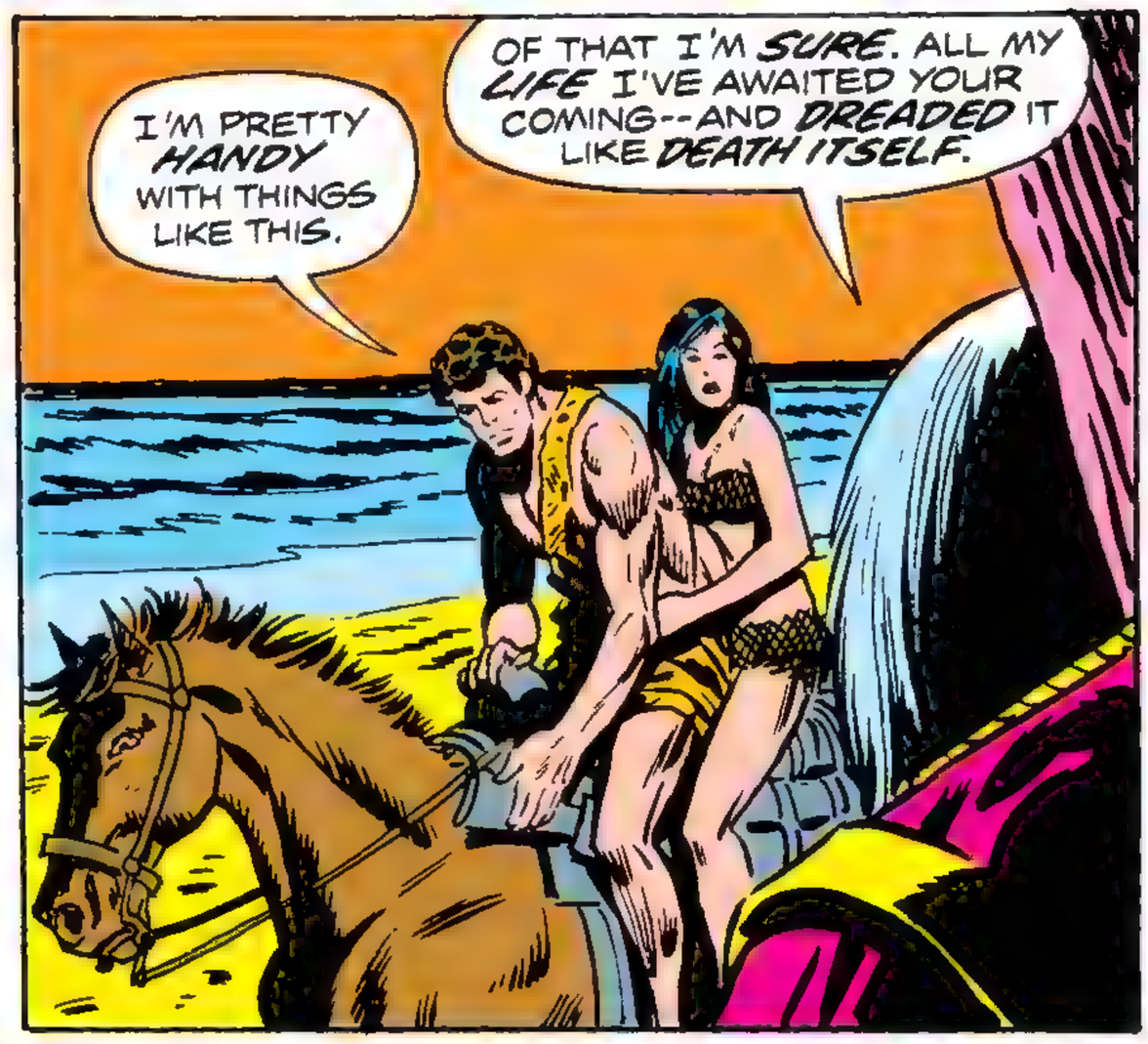
...YOU'RE SO DAMNED UGLY.

THAT'S AN OLD EXPRESSION. AND I'M SURE IT COMES FROM BOTH APE AND MAN.
GO WITH GOD, TAYLOR.
GOD BLESS YOU, ZIRA.

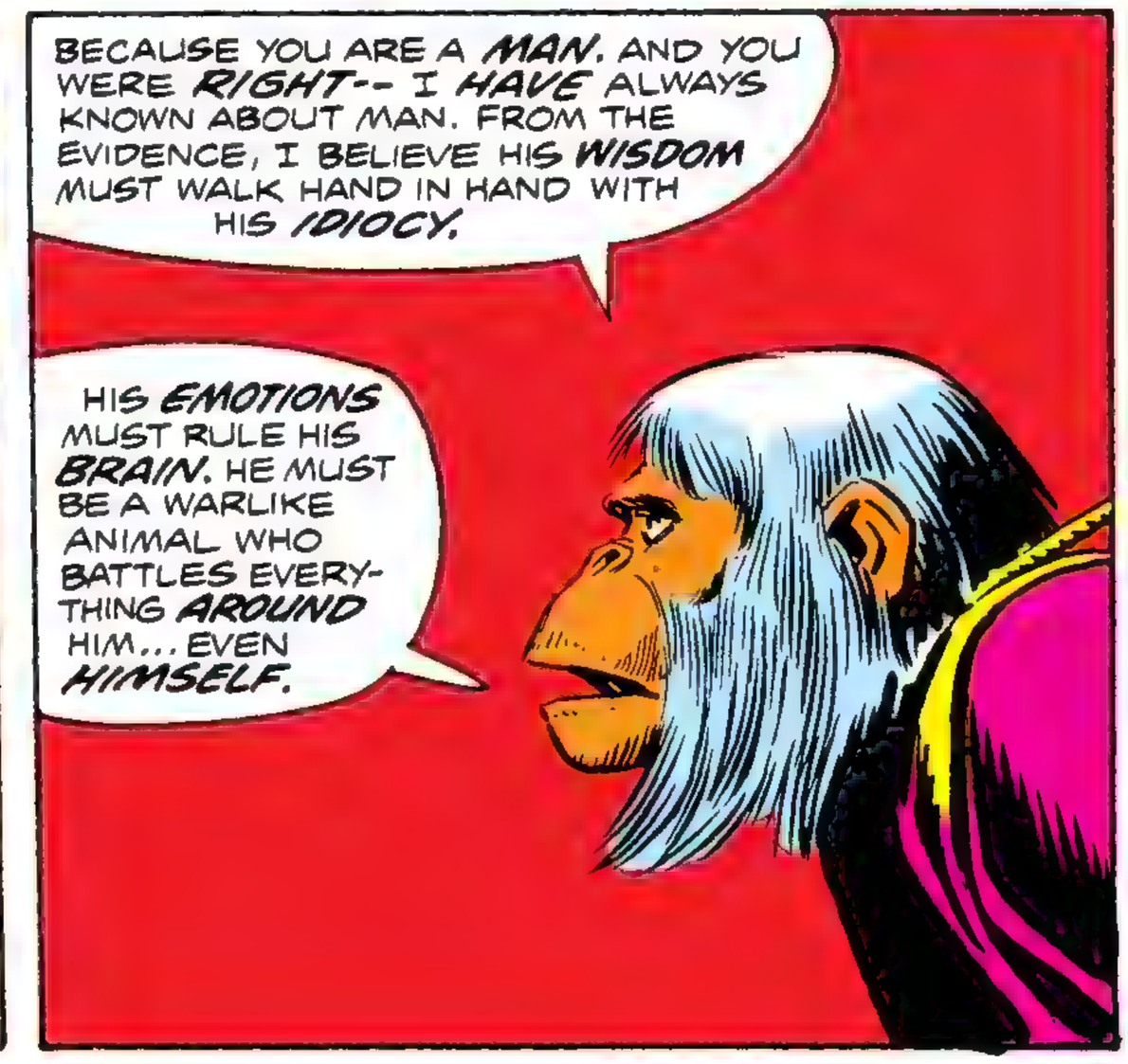
WELL, LUCIUS, I SUPPOSE YOU DON'T WANT TO COME ALONG EITHER.
I THINK YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE.

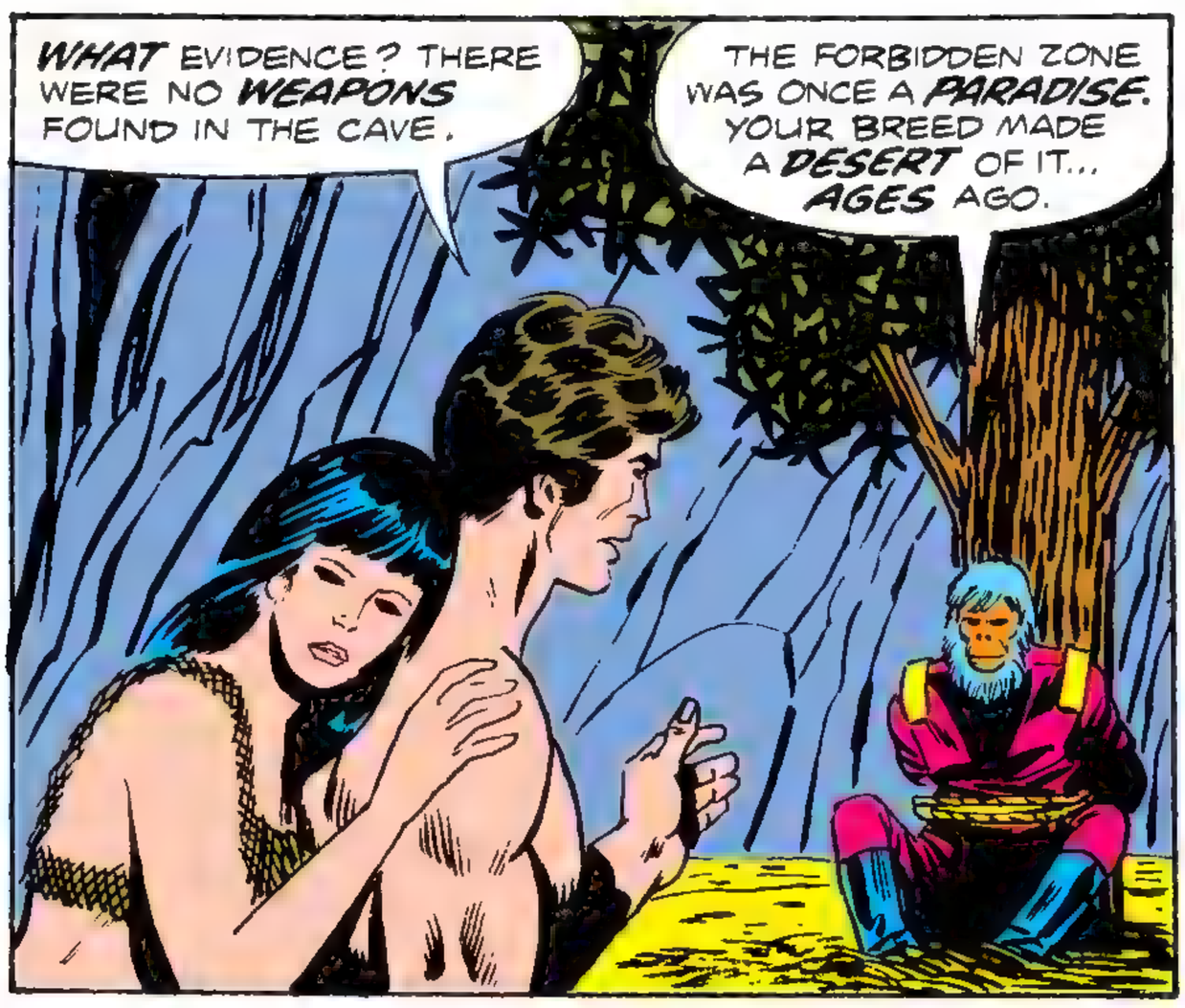
THAT'S THE BOY-- KEEP 'EM FLYING.
KEEP WHAT FLYING?
THE FLAGS OF DISCONTENT. IT'S THE ONLY WAY ANYTHING EVER GETS CHANGED.


DON'T TRY TO FOLLOW US, DR. ZAIUS...


I'M PRETTY HANDY WITH THINGS LIKE THIS.
OF THAT I'M SURE. ALL MY LIFE I'VE AWAITED YOUR COMING--AND DREADED IT LIKE DEATH ITSELF.

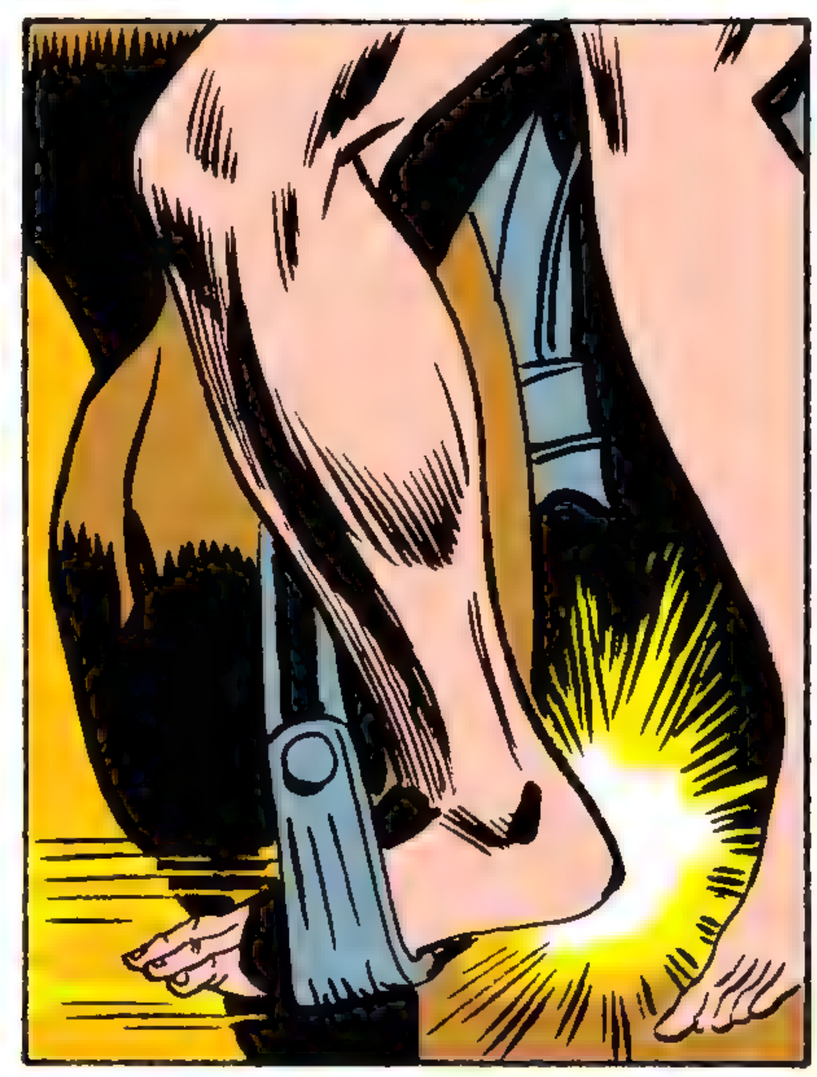
WHY?
FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, I'VE TERRIFIED YOU, DOCTOR. AND IN SPITE OF EVERY INDICATION THAT I'M AN INTELLIGENT BEING WHO MEANS YOU NO HARM, YOU CONTINUE TO HATE AND FEAR ME.
WHY?!

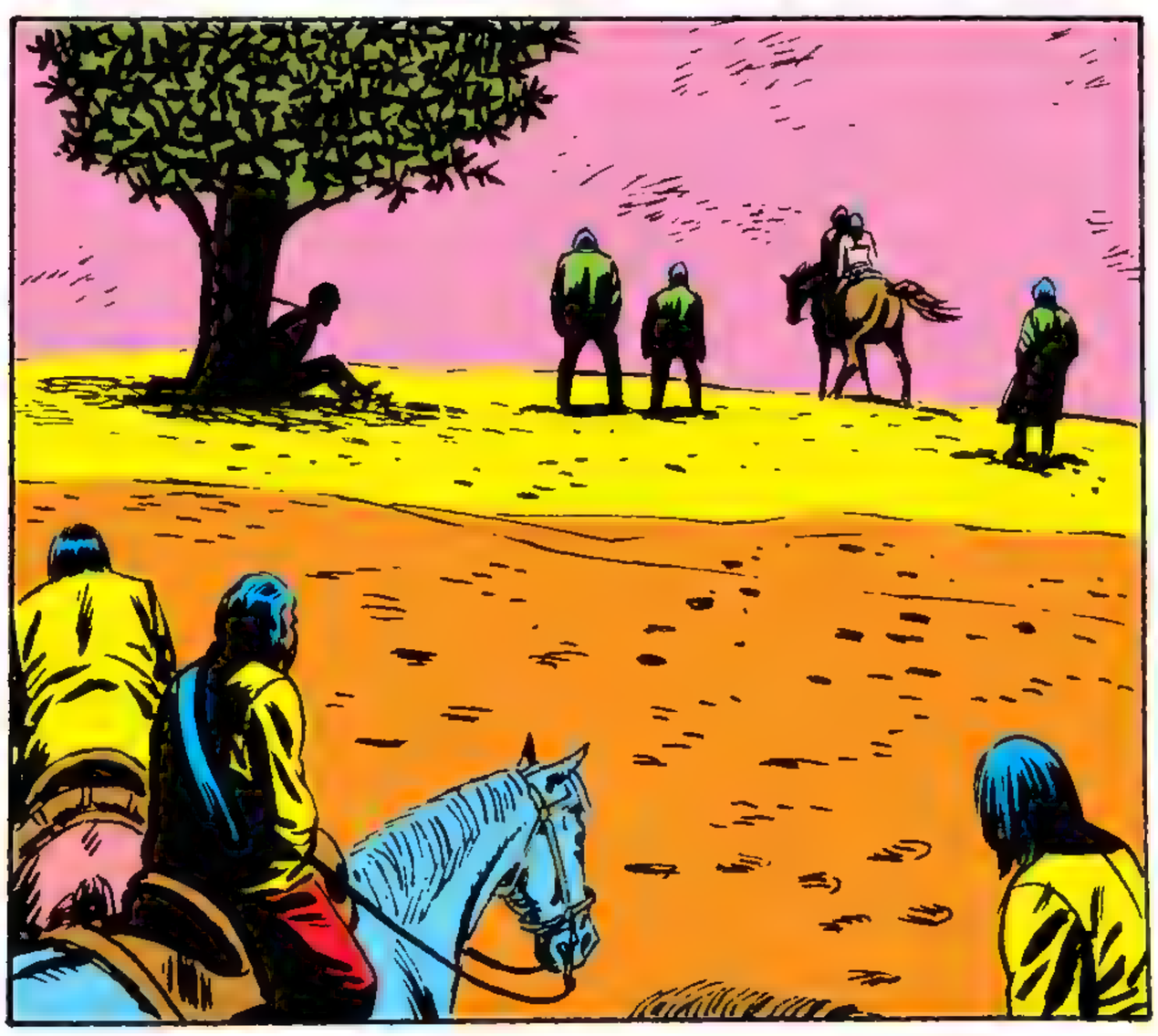

BECAUSE YOU ARE A MAN. AND YOU WERE RIGHT-- I HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN ABOUT MAN. FROM THE EVIDENCE, I BELIEVE HIS WISDOM MUST WALK HAND IN HAND WITH HIS IDIOCY.
HIS EMOTIONS MUST RULE HIS BRAIN. HE MUST BE A WARLIKE ANIMAL WHO BATTLES EVERYTHING AROUND HIM... EVEN HIMSELF.


WHAT EVIDENCE? THERE WERE NO WEAPONS FOUND IN THE CAVE.
THE FORBIDDEN ZONE WAS ONCE A PARADISE. YOUR BREED MADE A DESERT OF IT... AGES AGO.

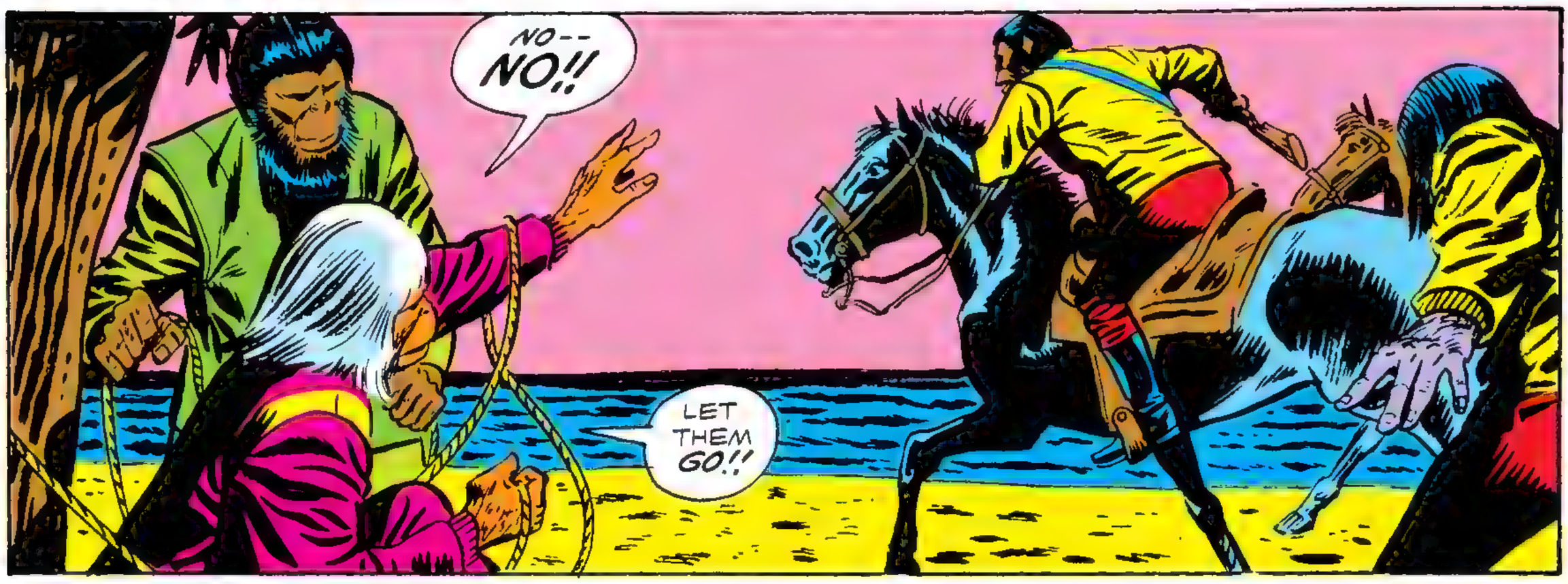
THAT'S DOUBLE-TALK, DOCTOR. I STILL DON'T KNOW WHY. A PLANET WHERE APES EVOLVED FROM MEN...
A WORLD TURNED WRONG SIDE UP-- A PUZZLE WITH THE FINAL PIECE MISSING...

DON'T COOK FOR IT, TAYLOR.
YOU MAY NOT LIKE WHAT YOU FIND.





UNTIE ME--!


NO-- NO!!
LET THEM GO!!

WELL, NOVA, IT SEEMS DR. ZAIUS HAS HALTED HIS THUGS FROM PURSUING US...
MAYBE THERE'S A SPARK OF DECENCY IN HIM AFTER ALL.

FETCH YOUR EXPLOSIVES, MARCUS. WE'RE GOING TO SEAL THE CAVE.
YES, SIR.
SEAL THE CAVE--?!

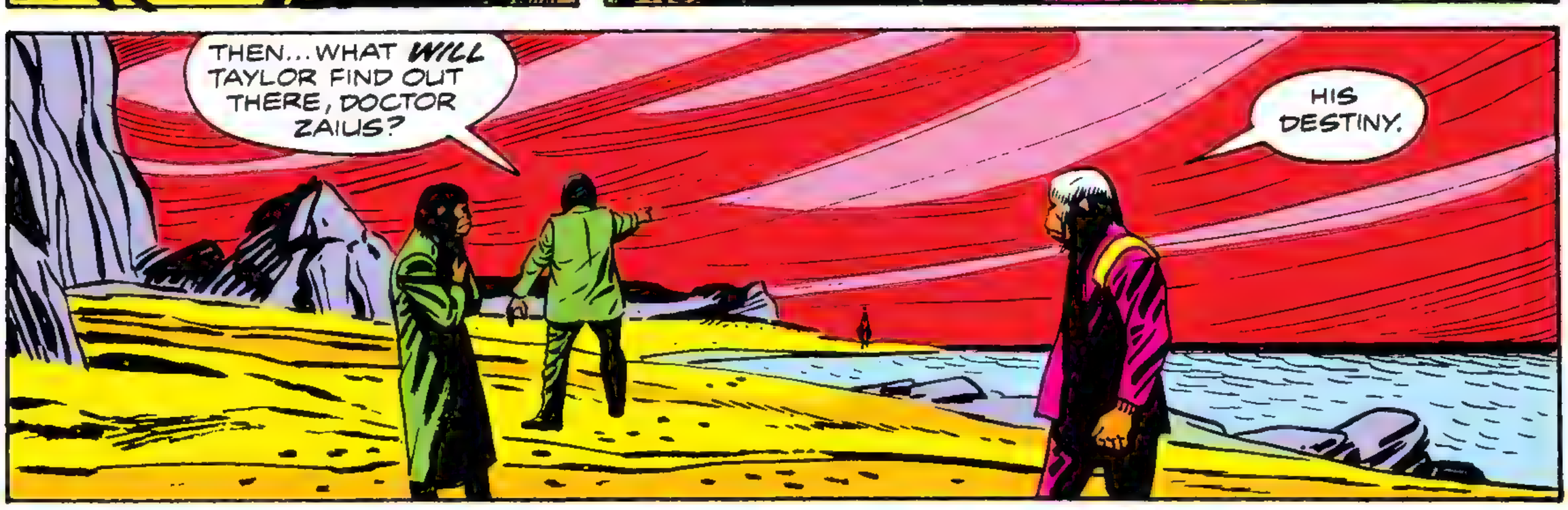
THAT'S WHAT I SAID, CORNELIUS, AND I MUST INFORM BOTH OF YOU THAT YOU WILL STAND TRIAL FOR THE CRIME OF HERESY.
BUT THE PROOF, THE DOLL--!

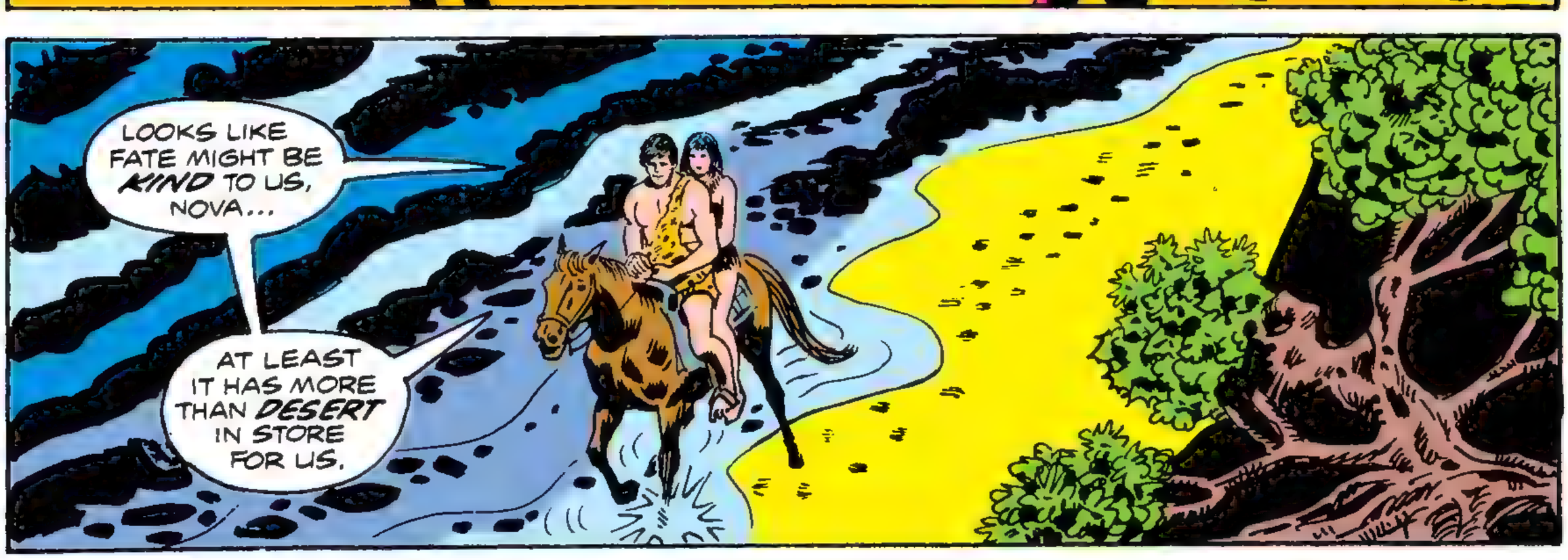
IN A FEW MINUTES, THERE WILL BE NO DOLL. THERE CAN'T BE.
THERE'S NO ROOM FOR A DOLL LIKE THAT IN OUR SOCIETY.
BUT YOU MUSTN'T DESTROY IT! YOU GAVE YOUR WORD--!

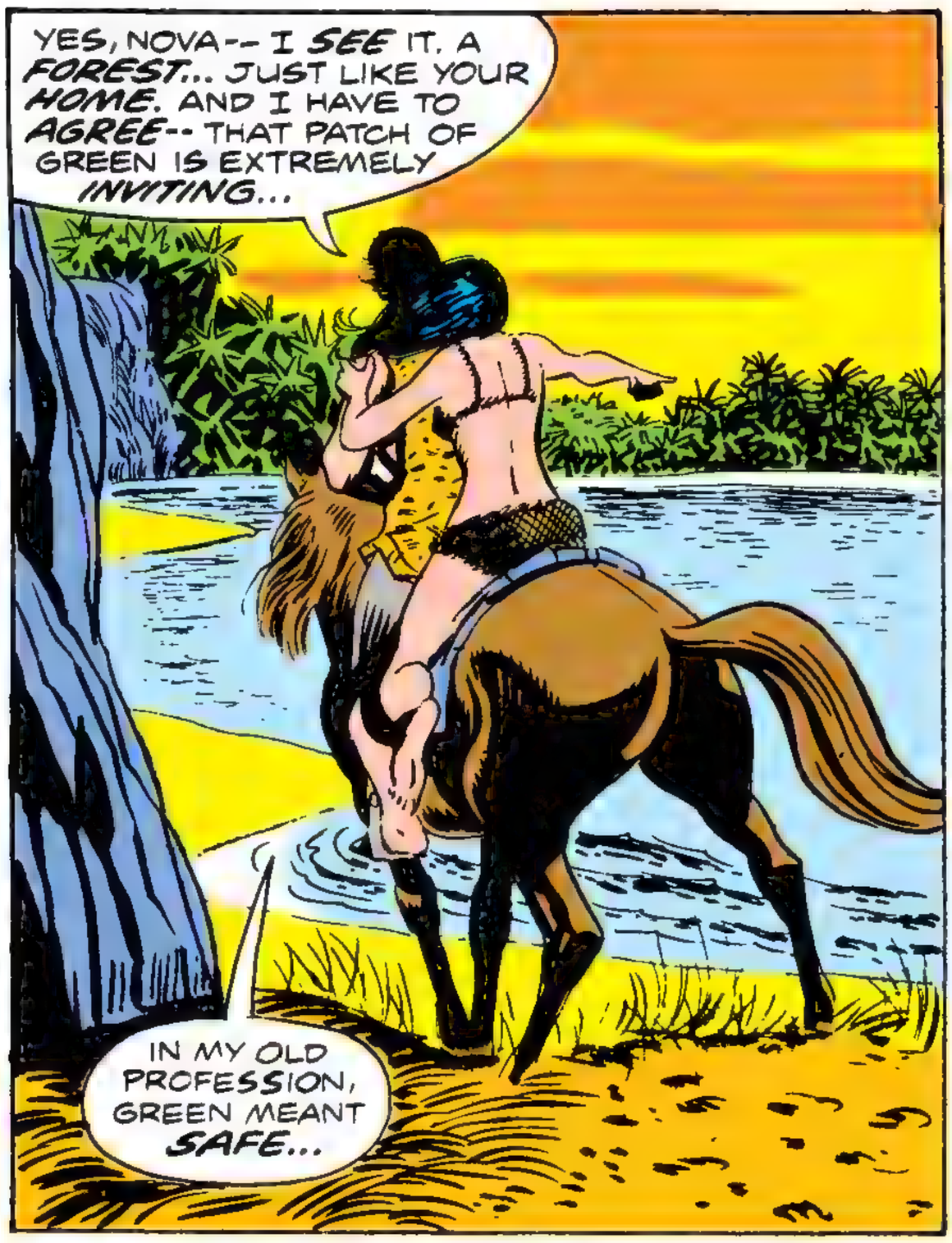
WHAT I DO, I DO WITH NO PLEASURE.
SILENCE HIM, XIRINIUS.

DR. ZAIUS, THIS IS INEXCUSABLE! WHY MUST KNOWLEDGE STAND STILL? WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE?!
THOUGH YOU WILL NEVER UNDERSTAND IT, YOUNG LUCIUS--

--I MAY HAVE JUST SAVED THE FUTURE FOR YOU...
...AND FOR ALL OF US.


THEN...WHAT WILL TAYLOR FIND OUT THERE, DOCTOR ZAIUS?
HIS DESTINY.


LOOKS LIKE FATE MIGHT BE KIND TO US, NOVA...
AT LEAST IT HAS MORE THAN DESERT IN STORE FOR US.

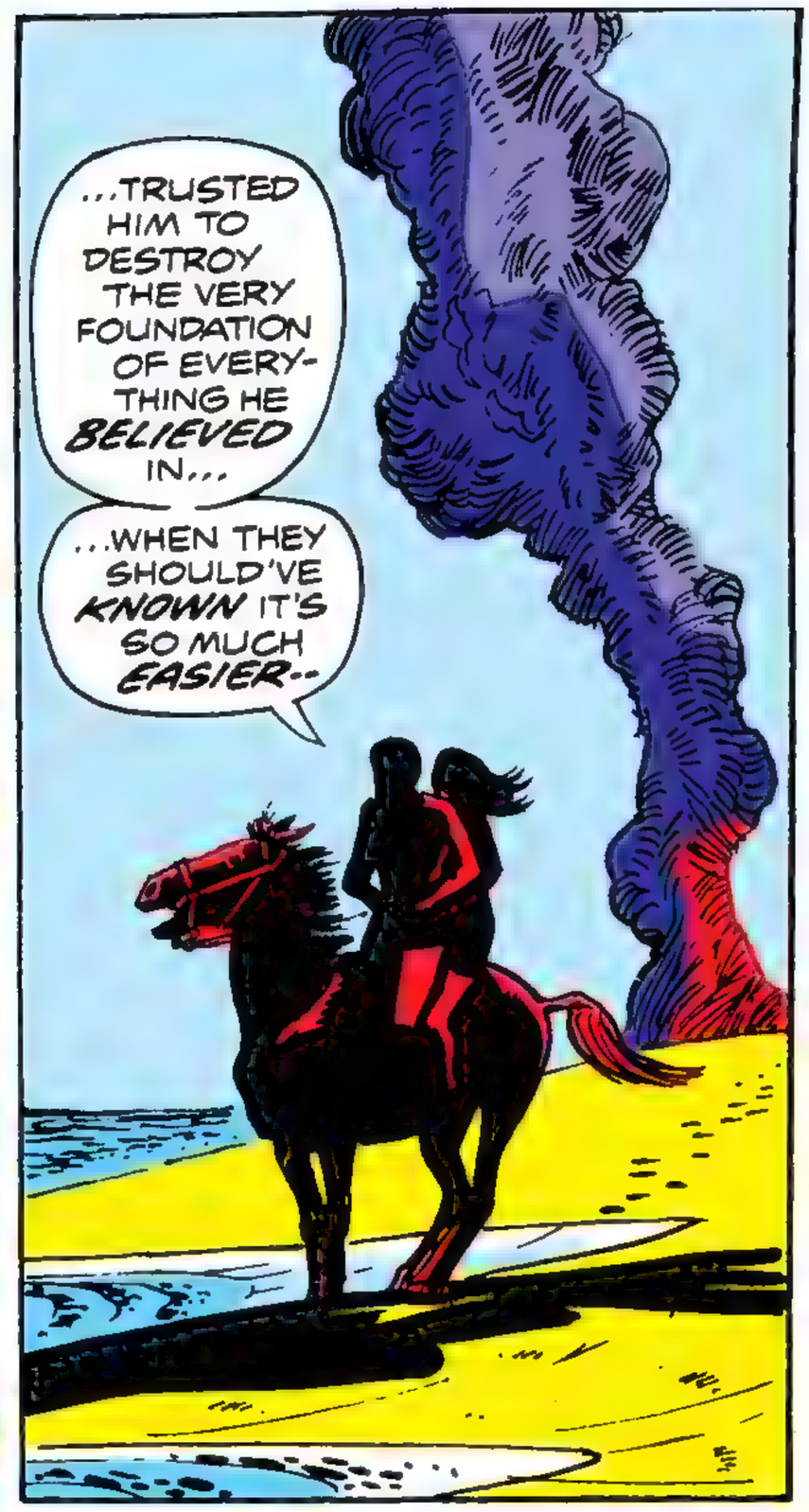

YES, NOVA-- I SEE IT. A FOREST... JUST LIKE YOUR HOME. AND I HAVE TO AGREE-- THAT PATCH OF GREEN IS EXTREMELY INVITING...
IN MY OLD PROFESSION, GREEN MEANT SAFE...

BUT I THINK WE'LL KEEP FOLLOWING THE SHORE FOR A WHILE... SINCE GREEN ALSO MEANT--
--GO.

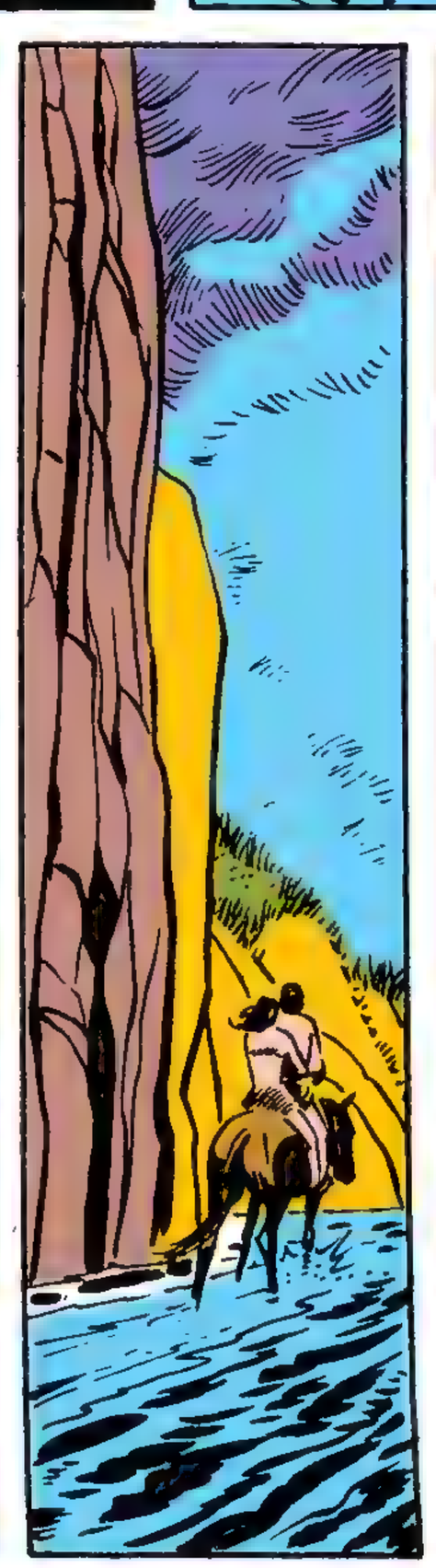
BAHOOOM!

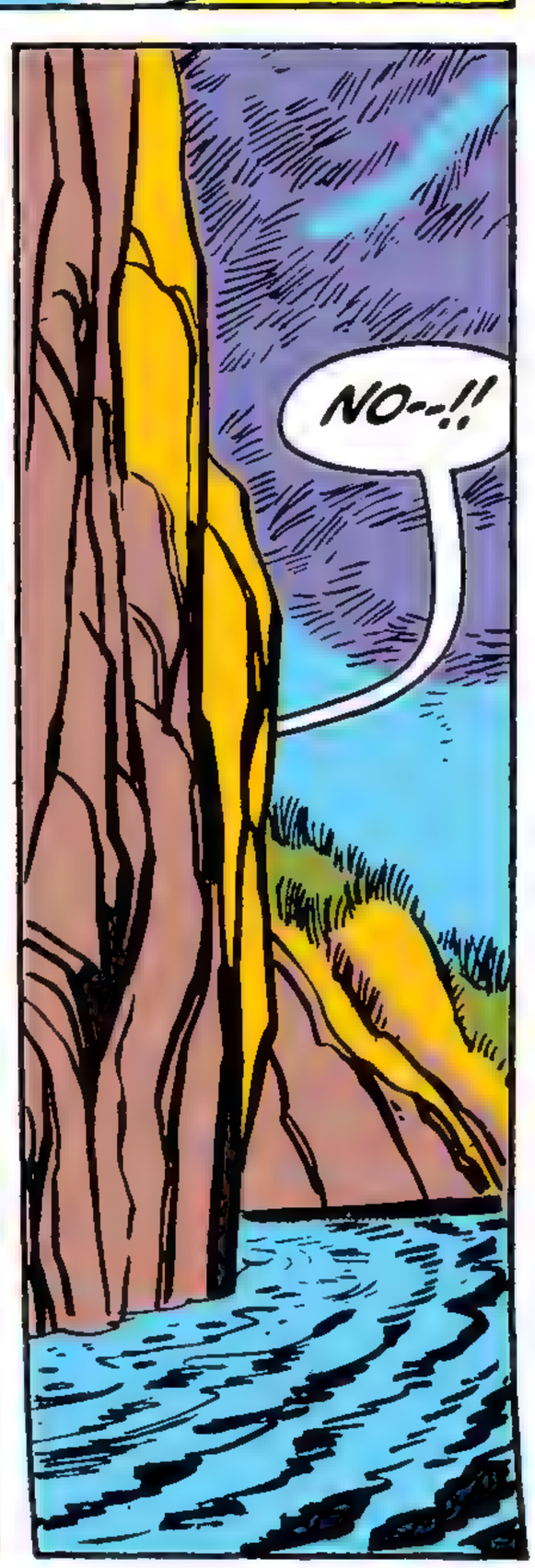
BHWOOM!

AND THEY TRUSTED HIM, NOVA...

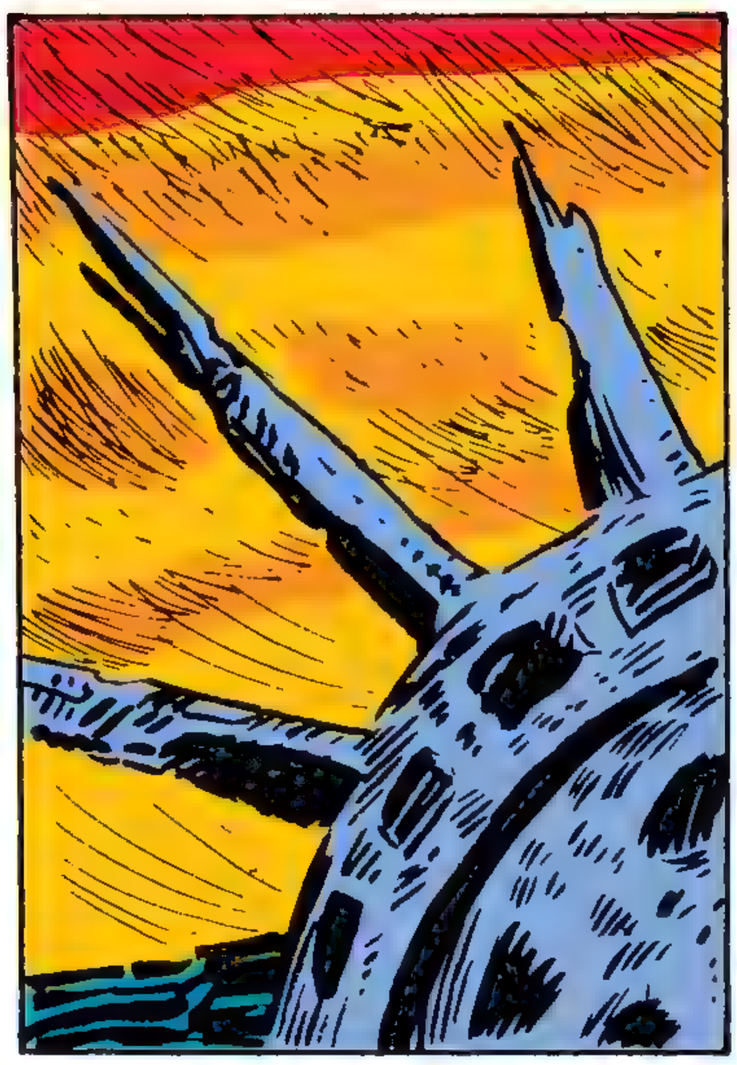

...TRUSTED HIM TO DESTROY THE VERY FOUNDATION OF EVERY-THING HE BELIEVED IN...
...WHEN THEY SHOULD'VE KNOWN IT'S SO MUCH EASIER--

--TO DESTROY A SIMPLE CAVE.

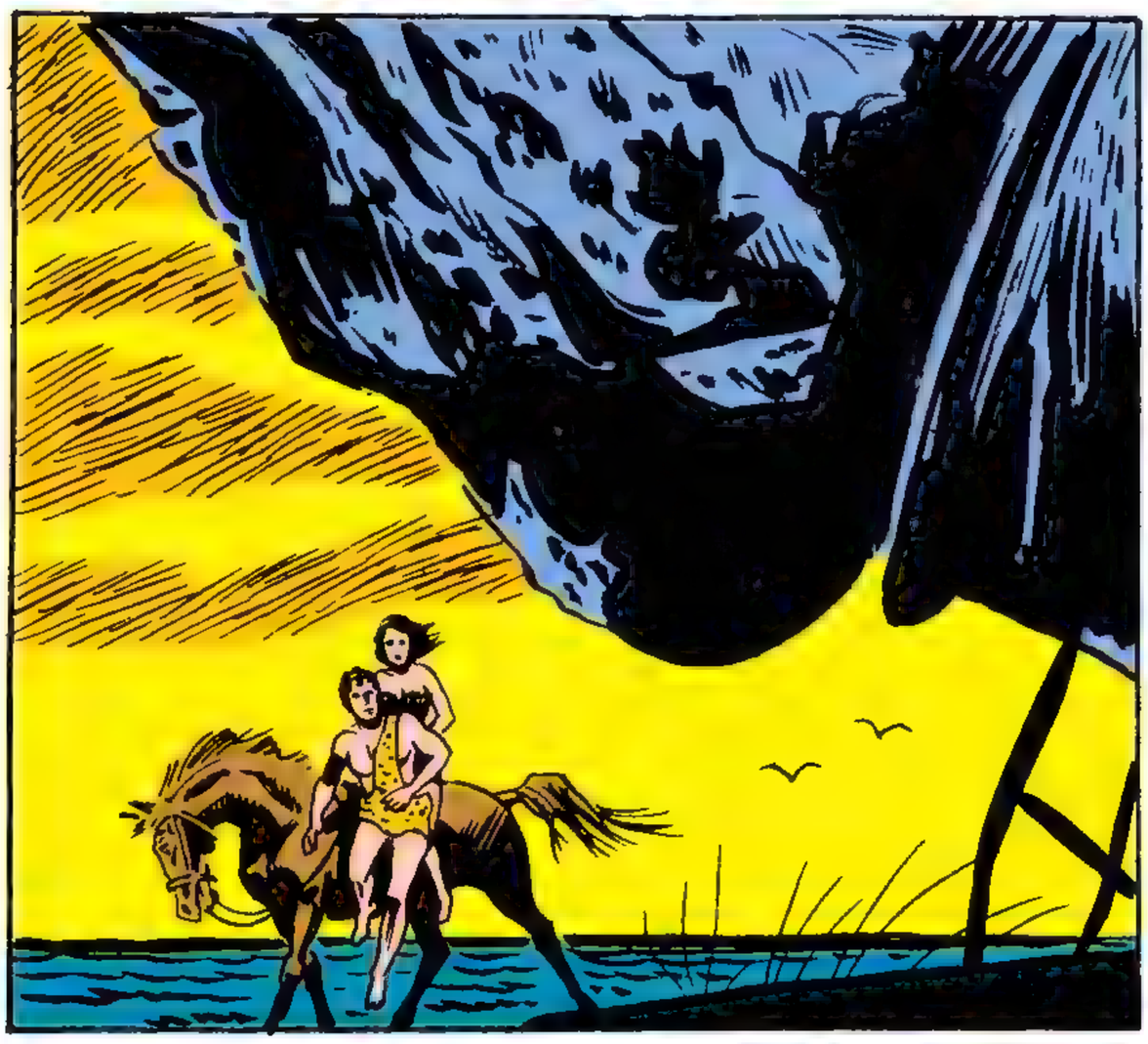



NO--!!

MY GOD...



...IT CAN'T BE...

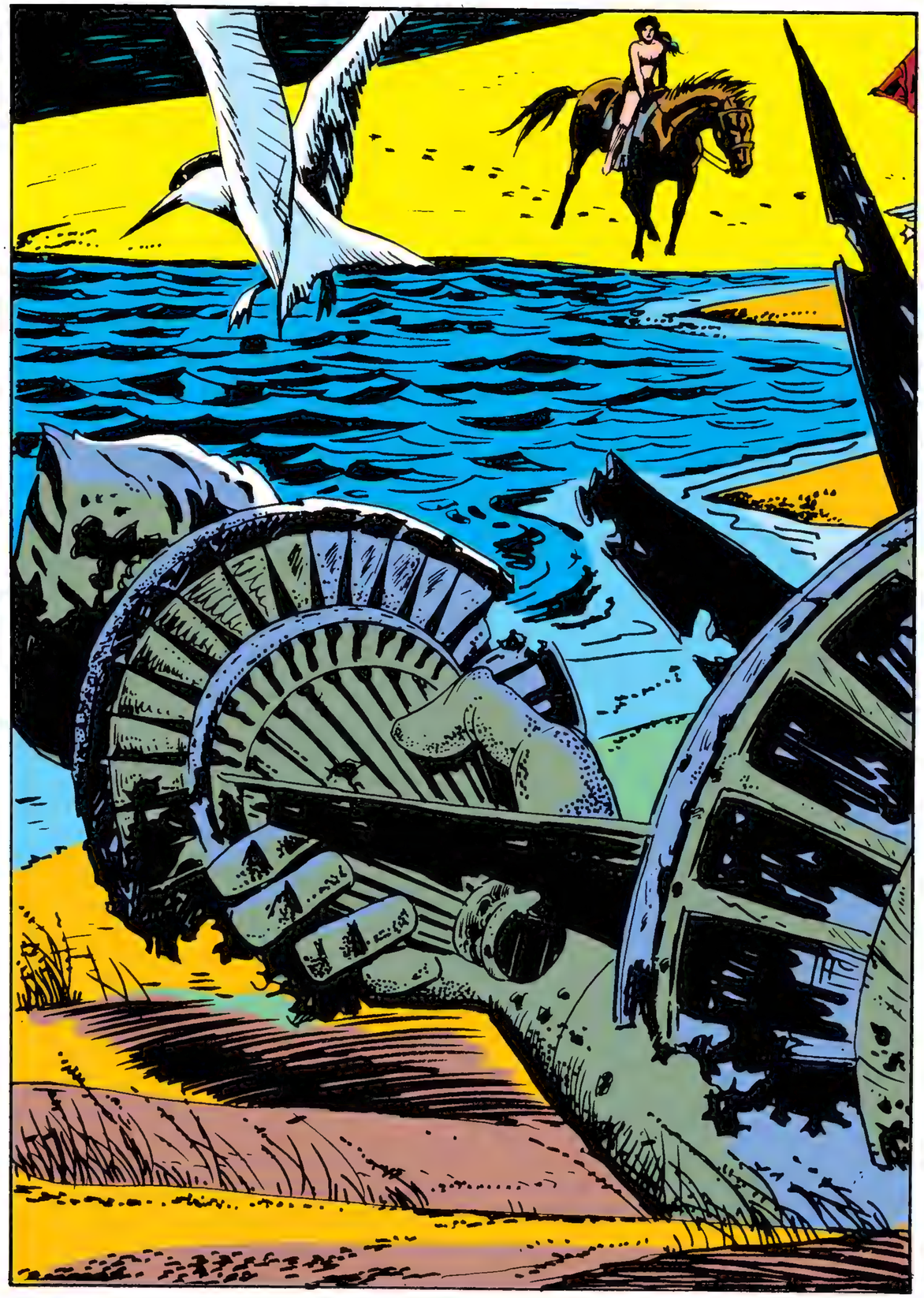


THEY DID IT.
THEY DID IT--!

THOSE--

--DAMN--

--FOOLS!



BEGINNING NEXT ISSUE: BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES!

ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES
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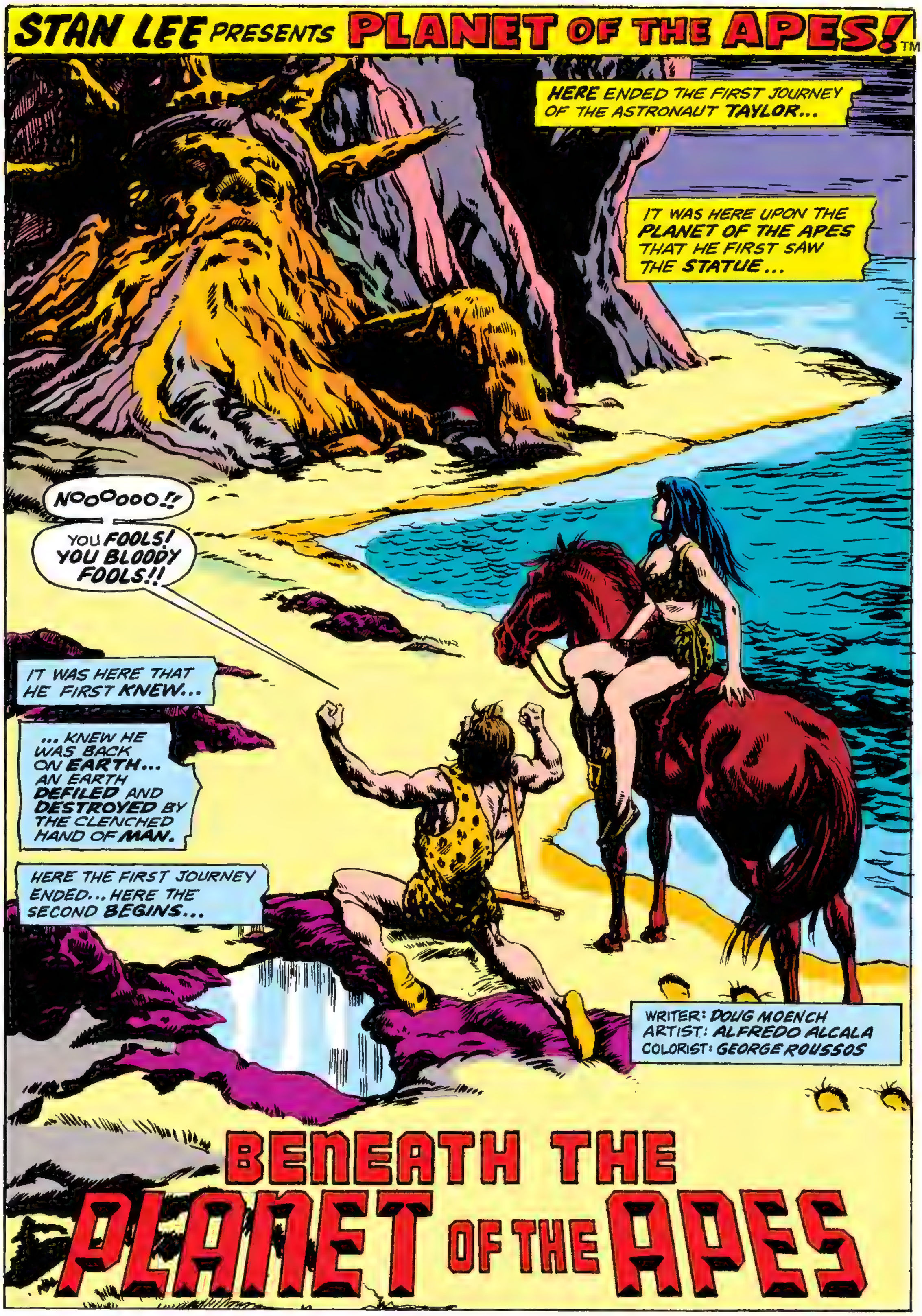
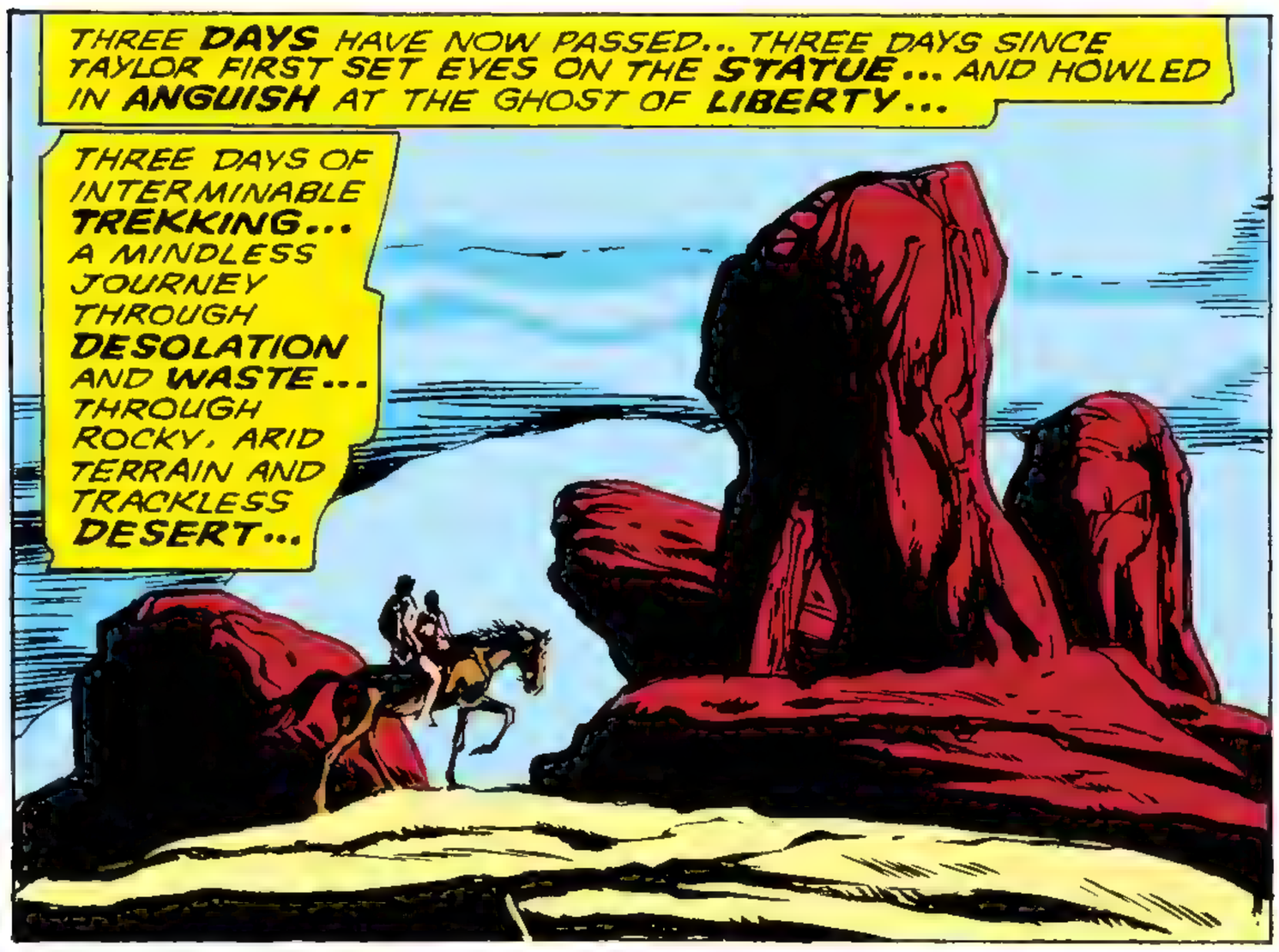
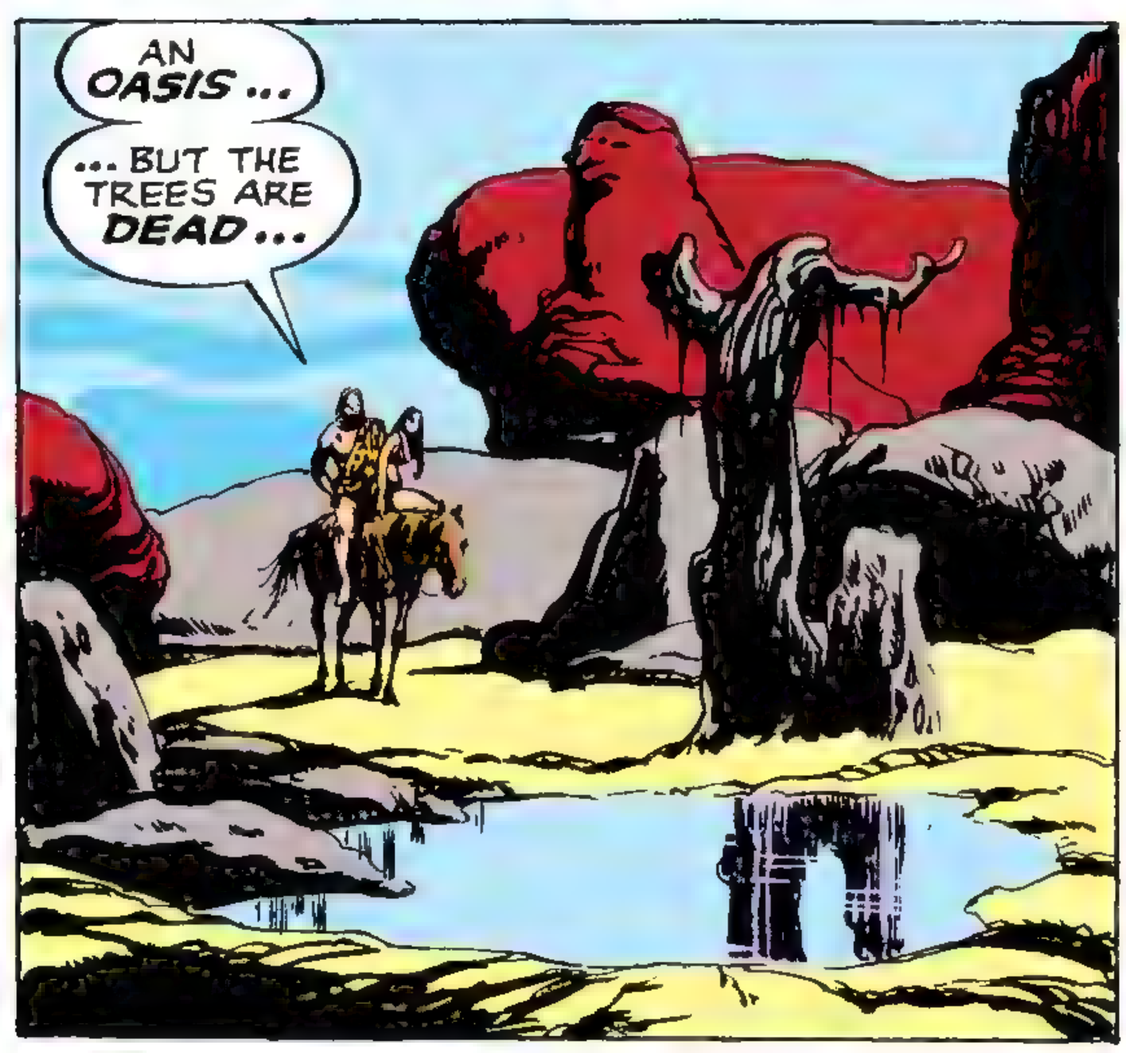
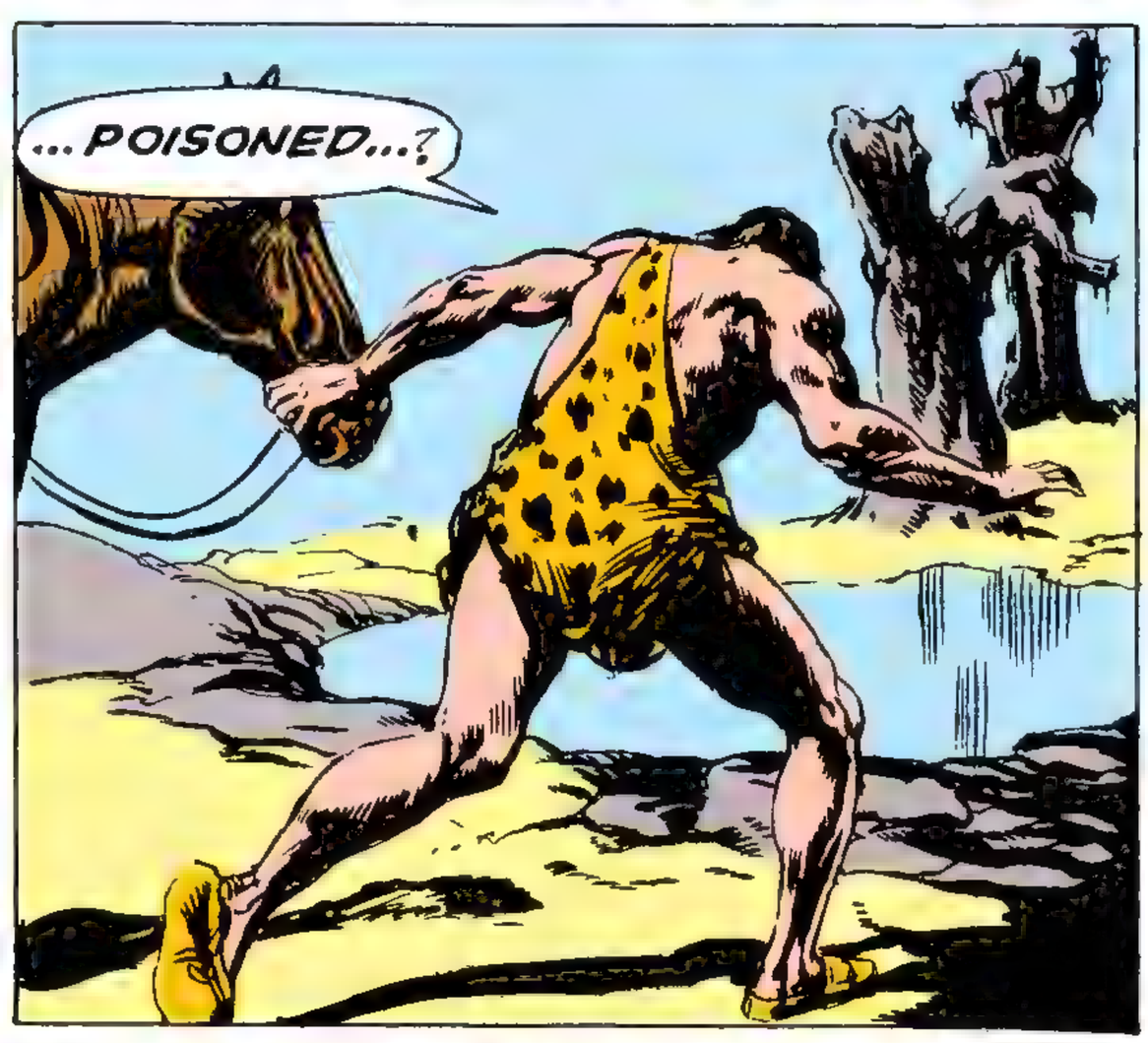
MARVEL COMICS GROUP™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES™
QUIET, NOVA! IF THOSE GORILLA GUARDS CATCH US--
--THEY'LL KILL US BOTH!
NASSER & JANSON


STAN LEE PRESENTS PLANET OF THE APES!™
HERE ENDED THE FIRST JOURNEY OF THE ASTRONAUT TAYLOR...
IT WAS HERE UPON THE PLANET OF THE APES THAT HE FIRST SAW THE STATUE...
NOOOOOO!!
YOU FOOLS! YOU BLOODY FOOLS!!
IT WAS HERE THAT HE FIRST KNEW...
... KNEW HE WAS BACK ON EARTH... AN EARTH DEFILED AND DESTROYED BY THE CLENCHED HAND OF MAN.
HERE THE FIRST JOURNEY ENDED... HERE THE SECOND BEGINS...
WRITER: DOUG MOENCH
ARTIST: ALFREDO ALCALA
COLORIST: GEORGE ROUSSOS
BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES

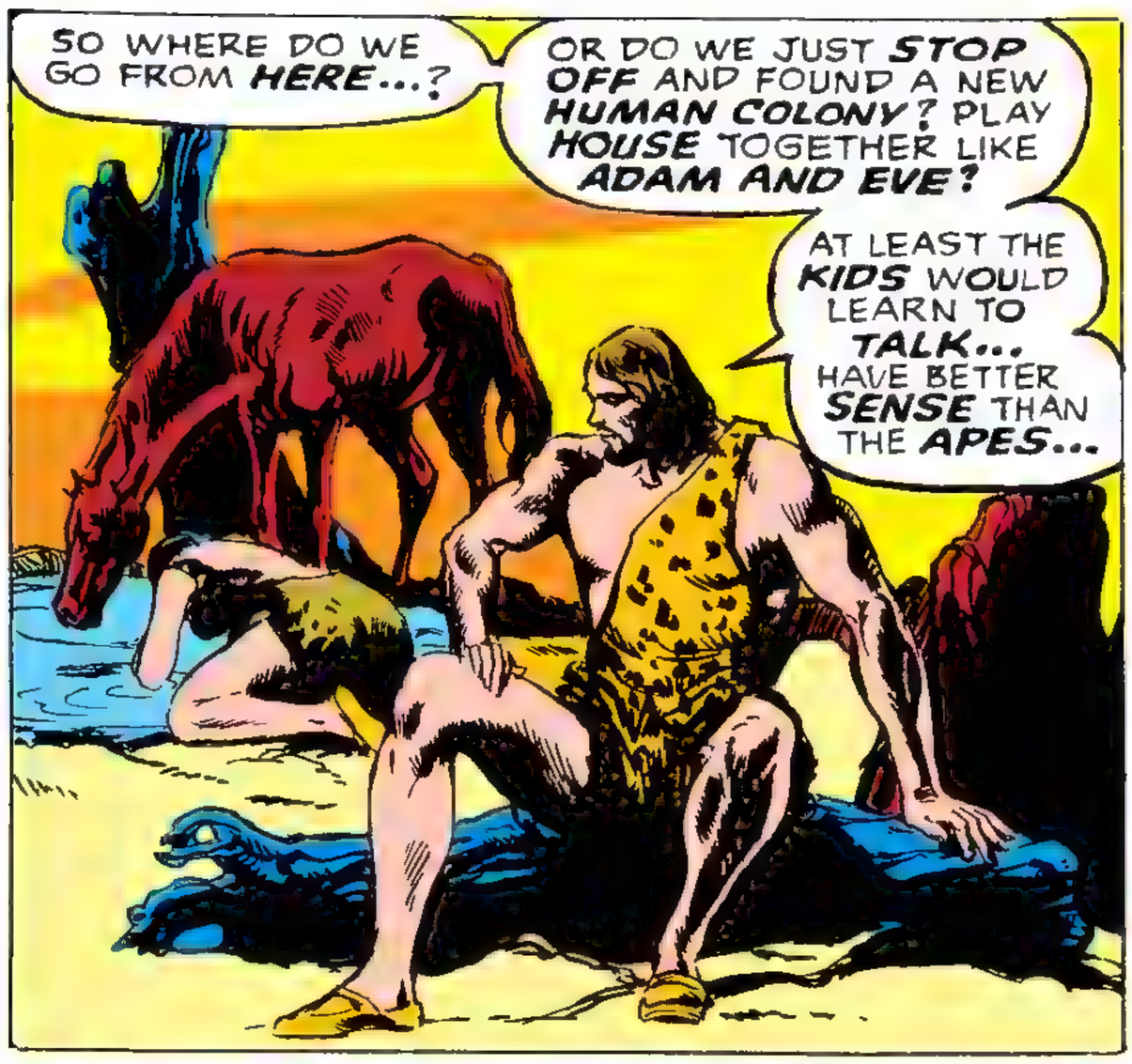

THREE DAYS HAVE NOW PASSED... THREE DAYS SINCE TAYLOR FIRST SET EYES ON THE STATUE... AND HOWLED IN ANGUISH AT THE GHOST OF LIBERTY...
THREE DAYS OF INTERMINABLE TREKKING... A MINDLESS JOURNEY THROUGH DESOLATION AND WASTE... THROUGH ROCKY, ARID TERRAIN AND TRACKLESS DESERT...

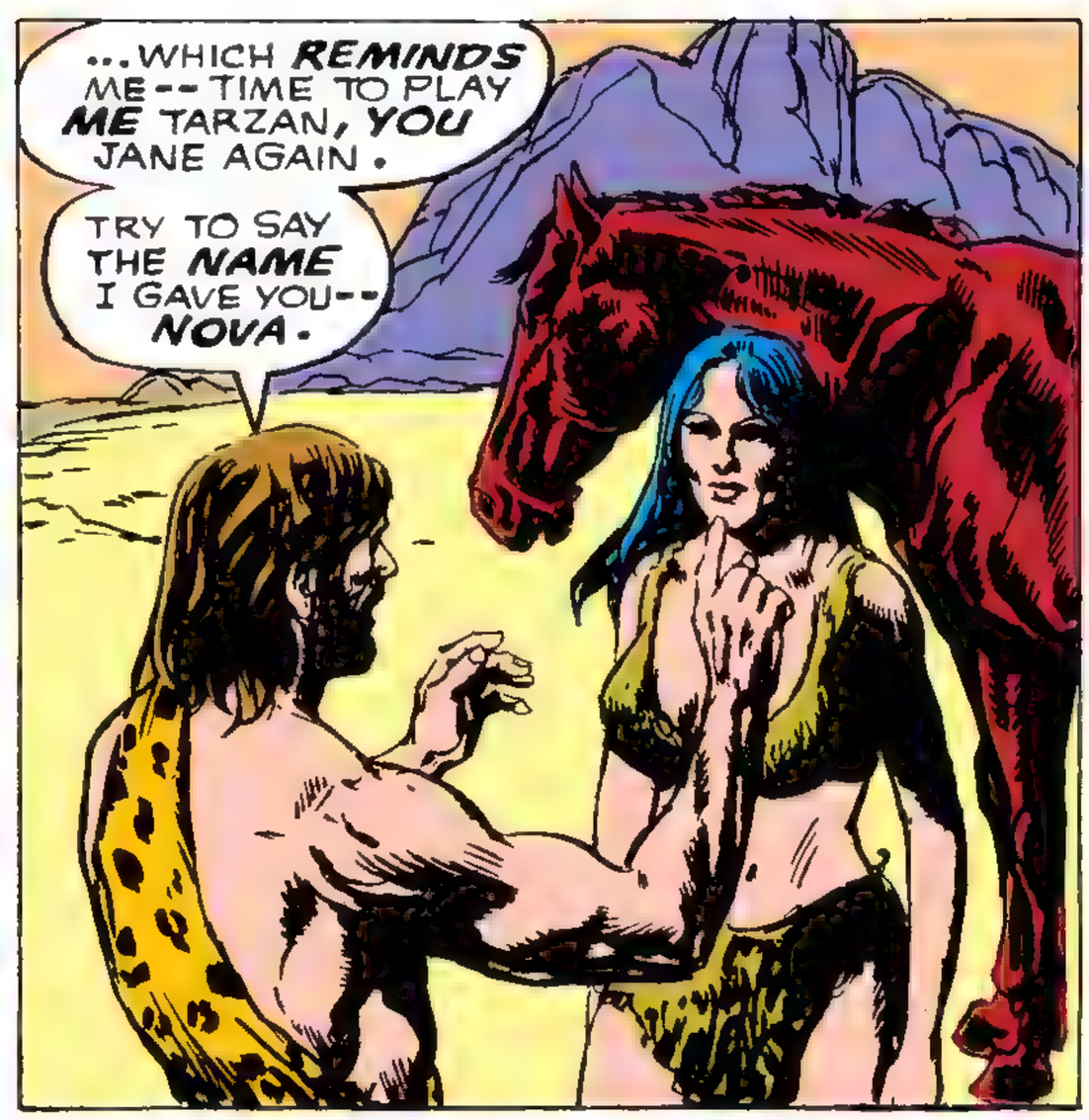
THREE DAYS CULMINATING IN THE DISCOVERY OF --
WATER--!!

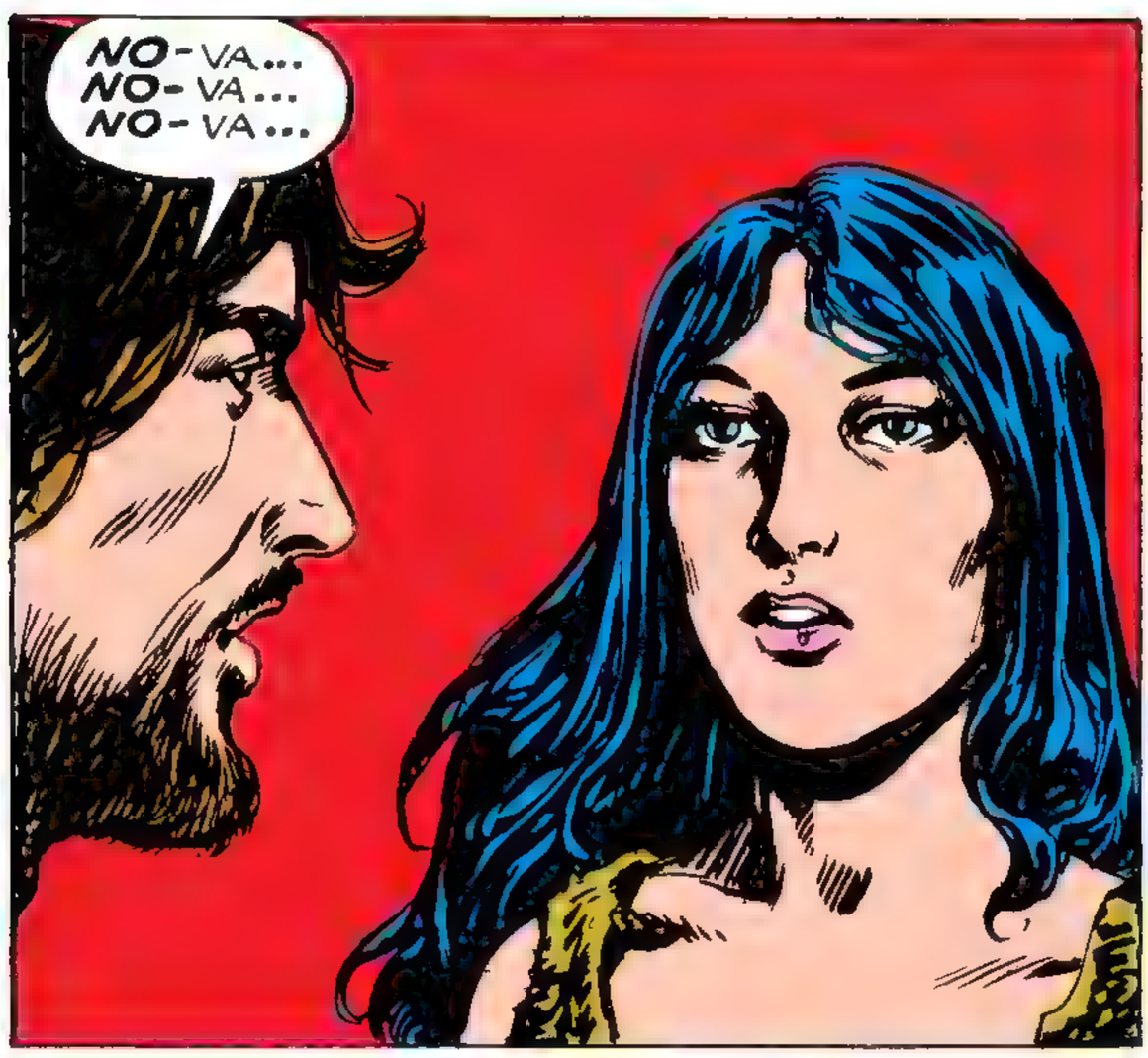

AN OASIS...
...BUT THE TREES ARE DEAD...

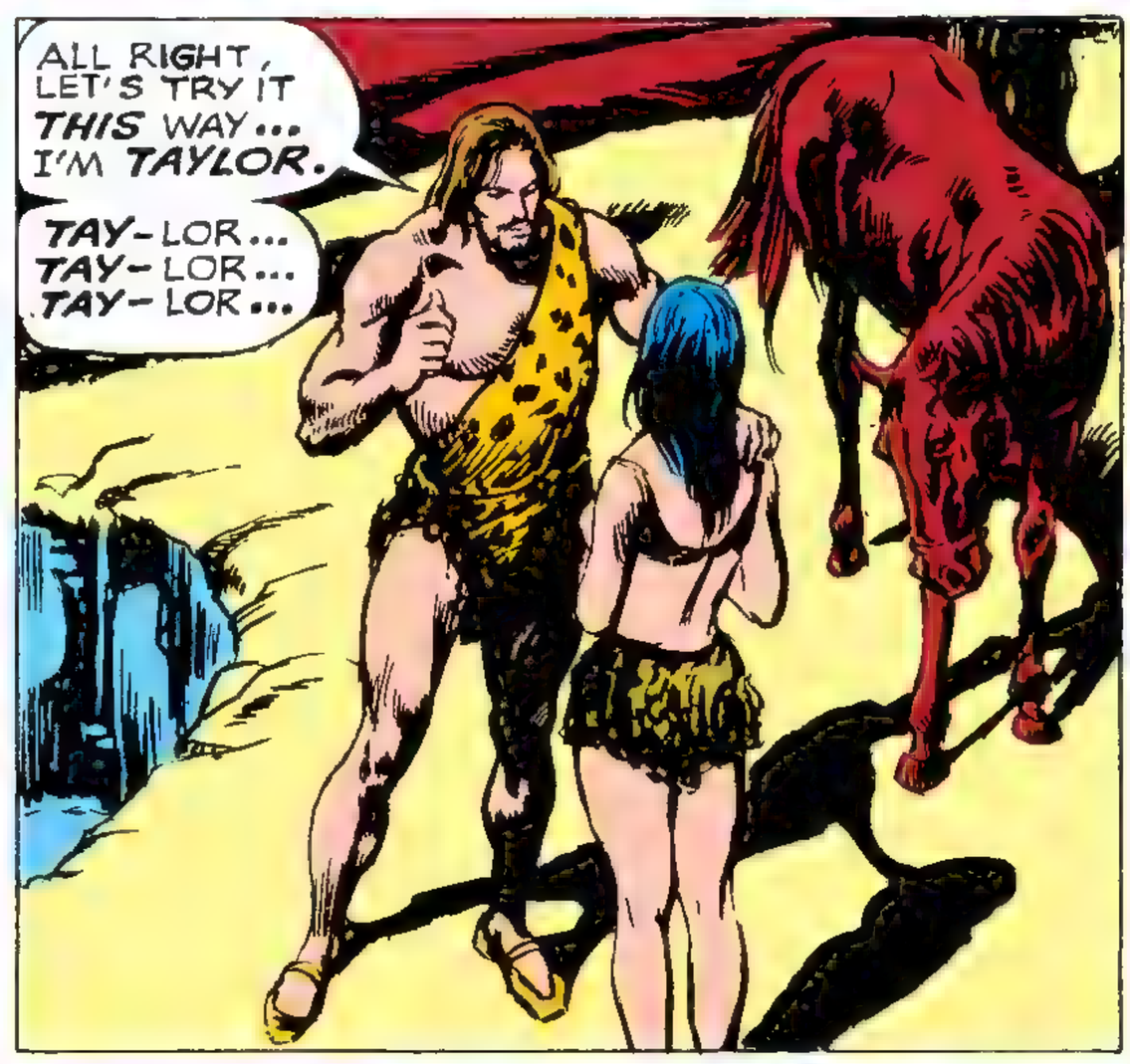

...POISONED...?

IT SEEMS TO BE ALL RIGHT, NOVA...
YOU AND THE HORSE MIGHT AS WELL WET YOUR WHISTLES. GOD KNOWS WE COULD USE A CHEERFUL TUNE...

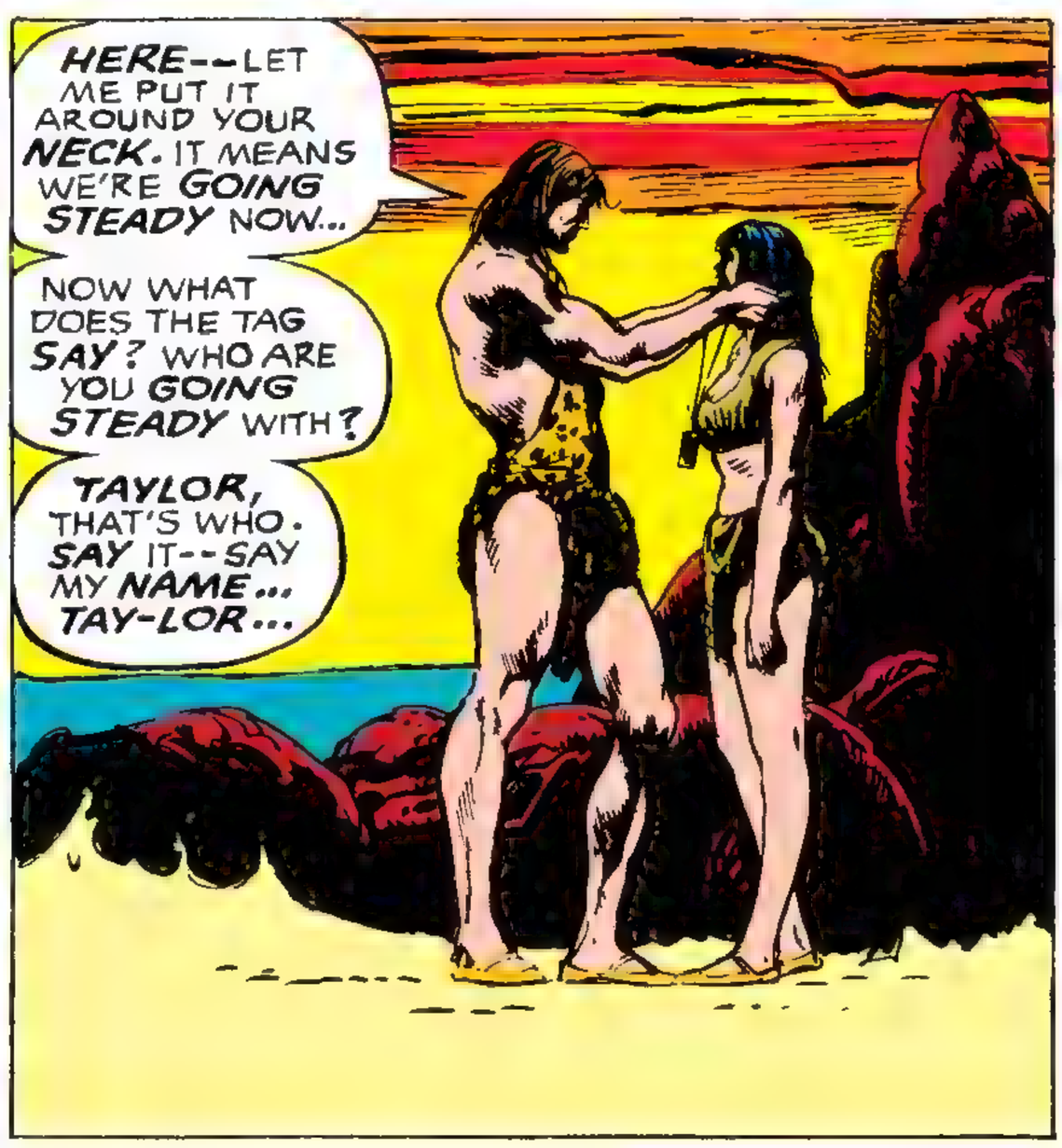

SO WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE...?
OR DO WE JUST STOP OFF AND FOUND A NEW HUMAN COLONY? PLAY HOUSE TOGETHER LIKE ADAM AND EVE?
AT LEAST THE KIDS WOULD LEARN TO TALK... HAVE BETTER SENSE THAN THE APES...


...WHICH REMINDS ME-- TIME TO PLAY ME TARZAN, YOU JANE AGAIN.
TRY TO SAY THE NAME I GAVE YOU-- NOVA.

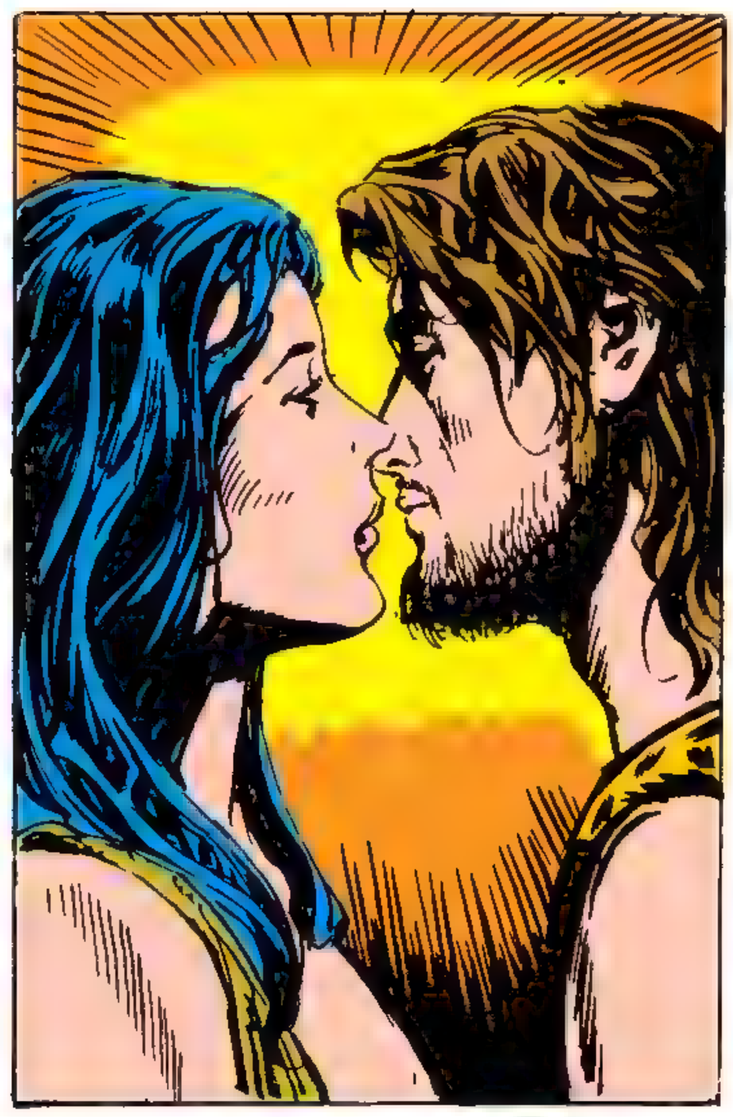

NO-VA... NO-VA... NO-VA...


ALL RIGHT, LET'S TRY IT THIS WAY... I'M TAYLOR.
TAY-LOR... TAY-LOR... TAY-LOR...

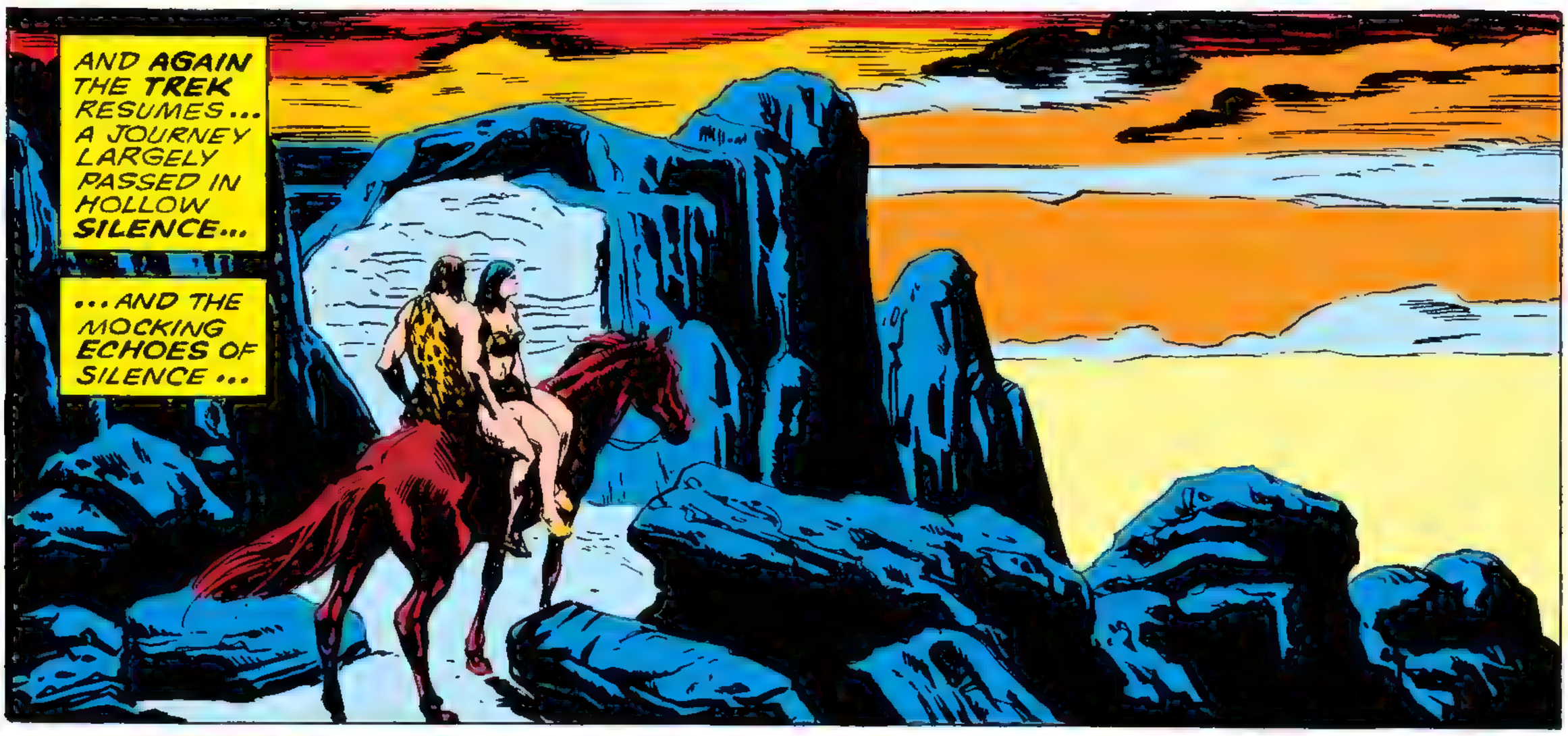
NO DICE, HUH? OKAY, LOOK AT THIS LITTLE METAL THING. IT'S AN IDENTITY TAG-- SORT OF LIKE A DOG-TAG, EXCEPT THEY GIVE IT TO ASTRONAUTS SO THEY WON'T FORGET WHO THEY ARE.
IT SAYS TAYLOR ON IT. THAT'S ME...

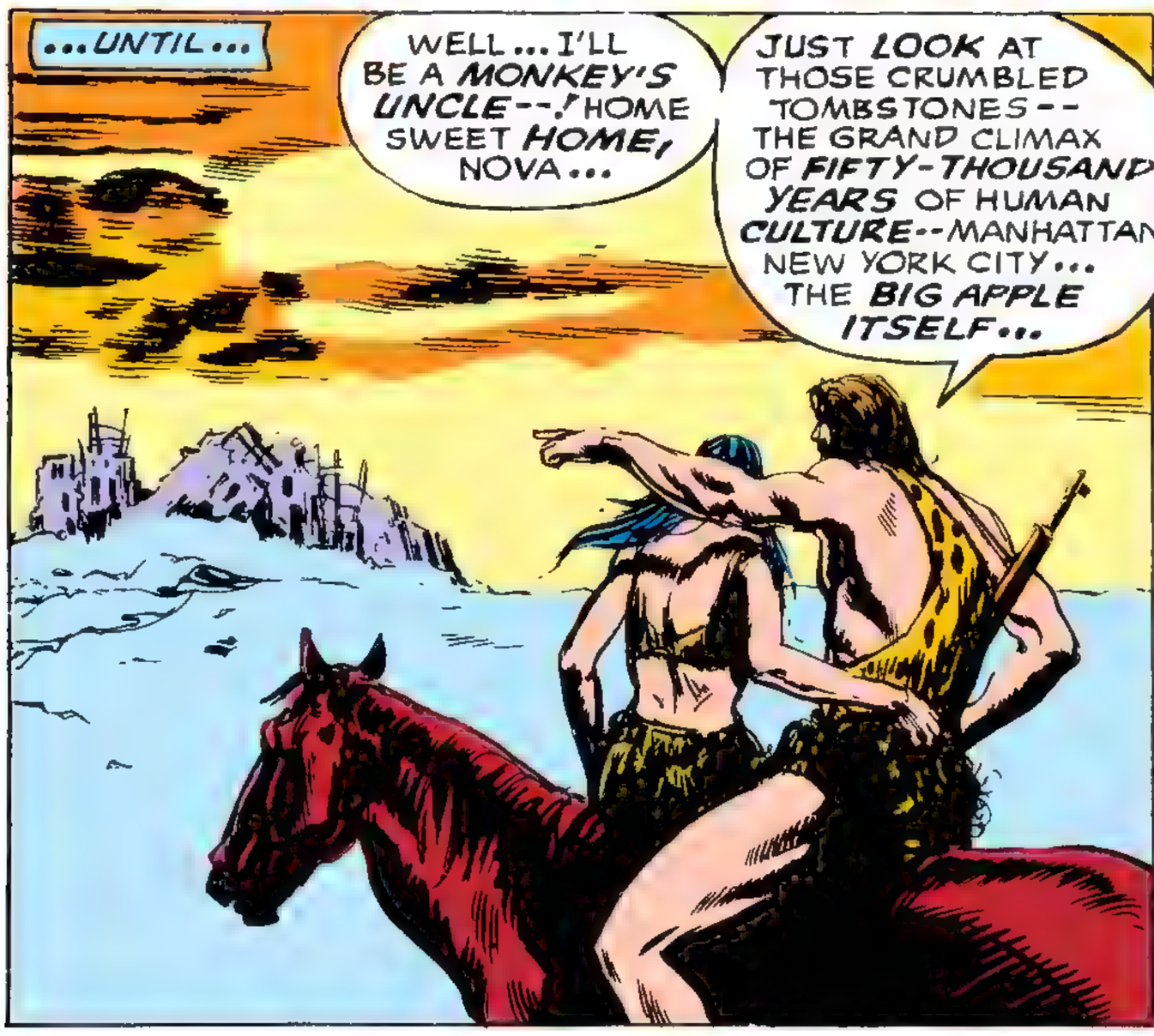

HERE--LET ME PUT IT AROUND YOUR NECK. IT MEANS WE'RE GOING STEADY NOW...
NOW WHAT DOES THE TAG SAY? WHO ARE YOU GOING STEADY WITH?
TAYLOR, THAT'S WHO. SAY IT--SAY MY NAME... TAY-LOR...

WELL, THERE'S NO SOUND...
...BUT AT LEAST YOUR LIPS ARE TRYING...AND IT'D BE A SHAME TO LET THEM GO TO WASTE...



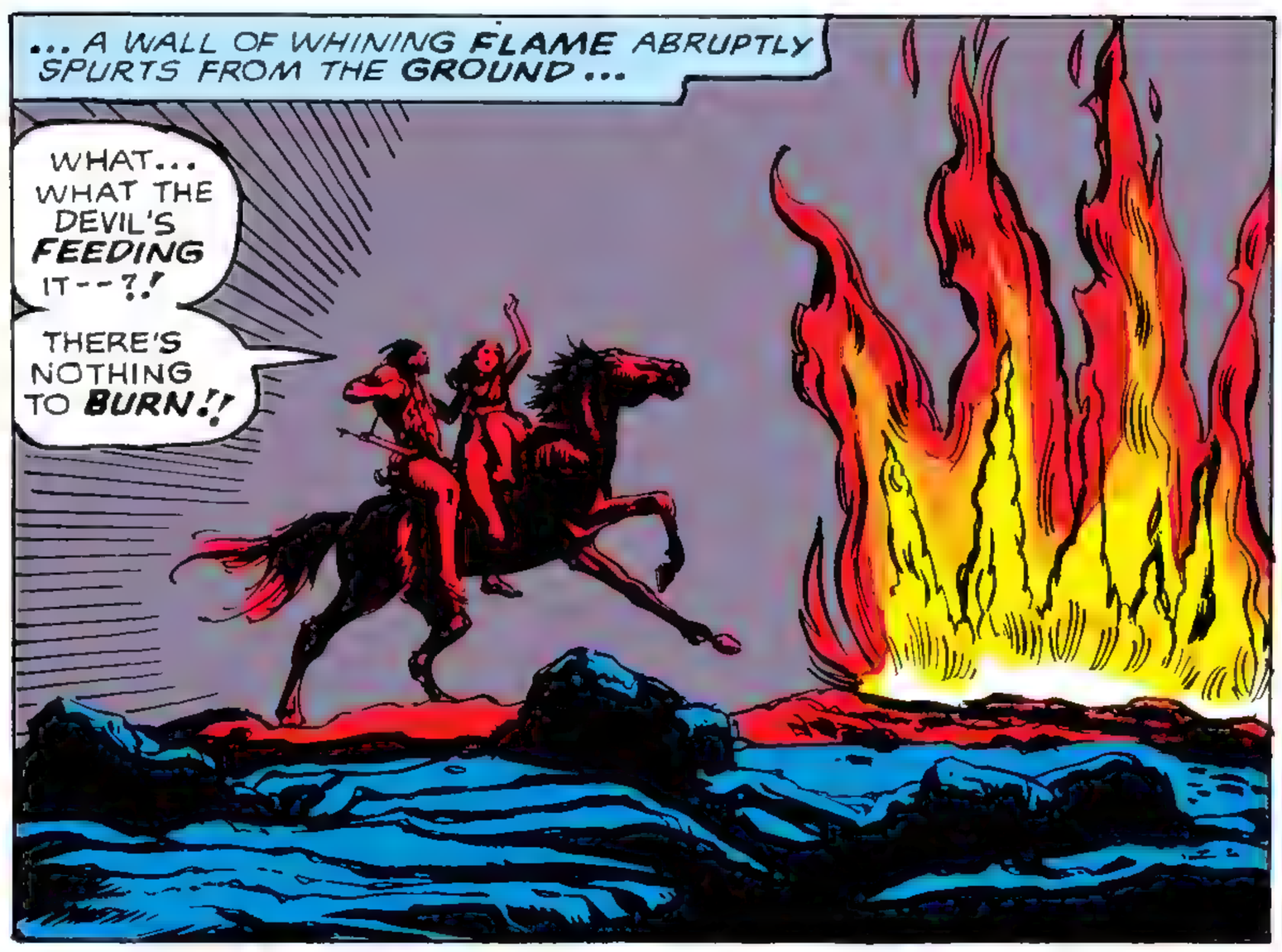
COME ON.
LET'S FIND A HOME.

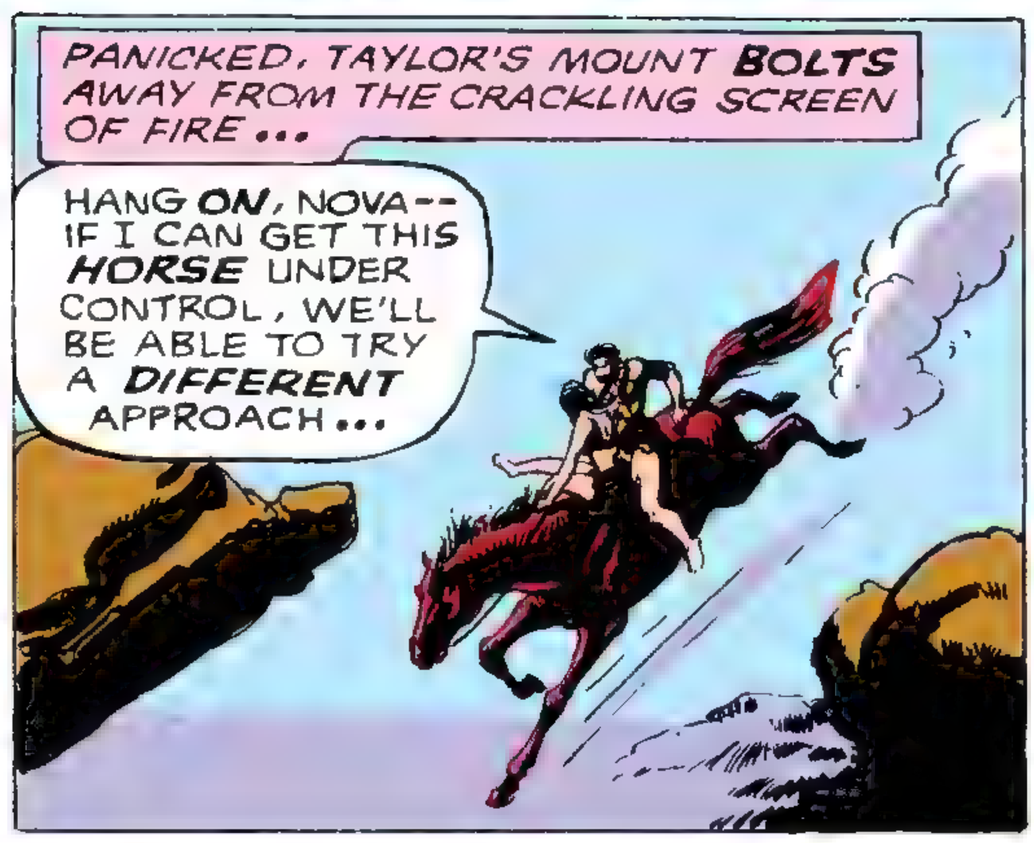

AND AGAIN THE TREK RESUMES... A JOURNEY LARGELY PASSED IN HOLLOW SILENCE...
...AND THE MOCKING ECHOES OF SILENCE...

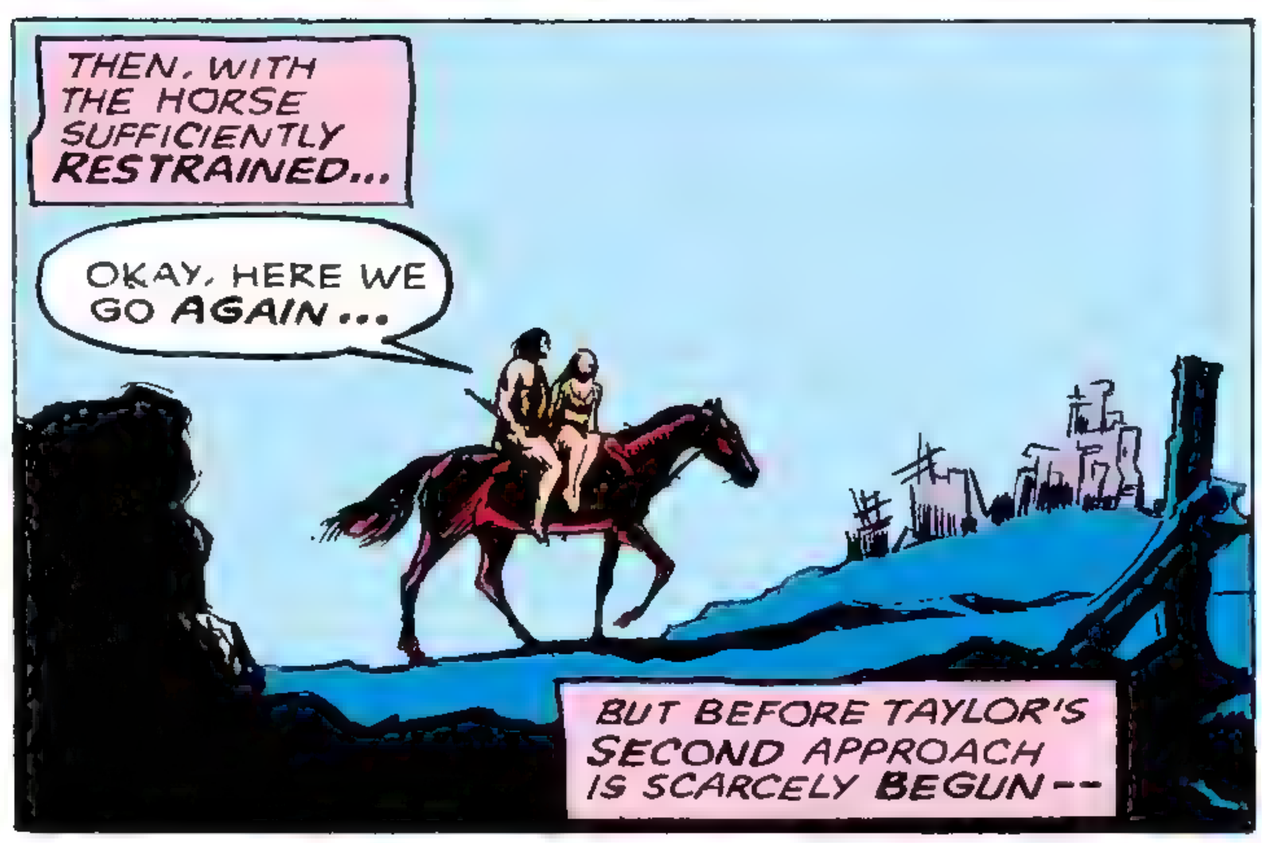

...UNTIL...
WELL...I'LL BE A MONKEY'S UNCLE--! HOME SWEET HOME, NOVA...
JUST LOOK AT THOSE CRUMBLED TOMBSTONES -- THE GRAND CLIMAX OF FIFTY-THOUSAND YEARS OF HUMAN CULTURE--MANHATTAN, NEW YORK CITY... THE BIG APPLE ITSELF...

I WONDER WHO LIVES HERE NOW... BESIDES RADIOACTIVE WORMS THAT IS.
LET'S GO SEE.

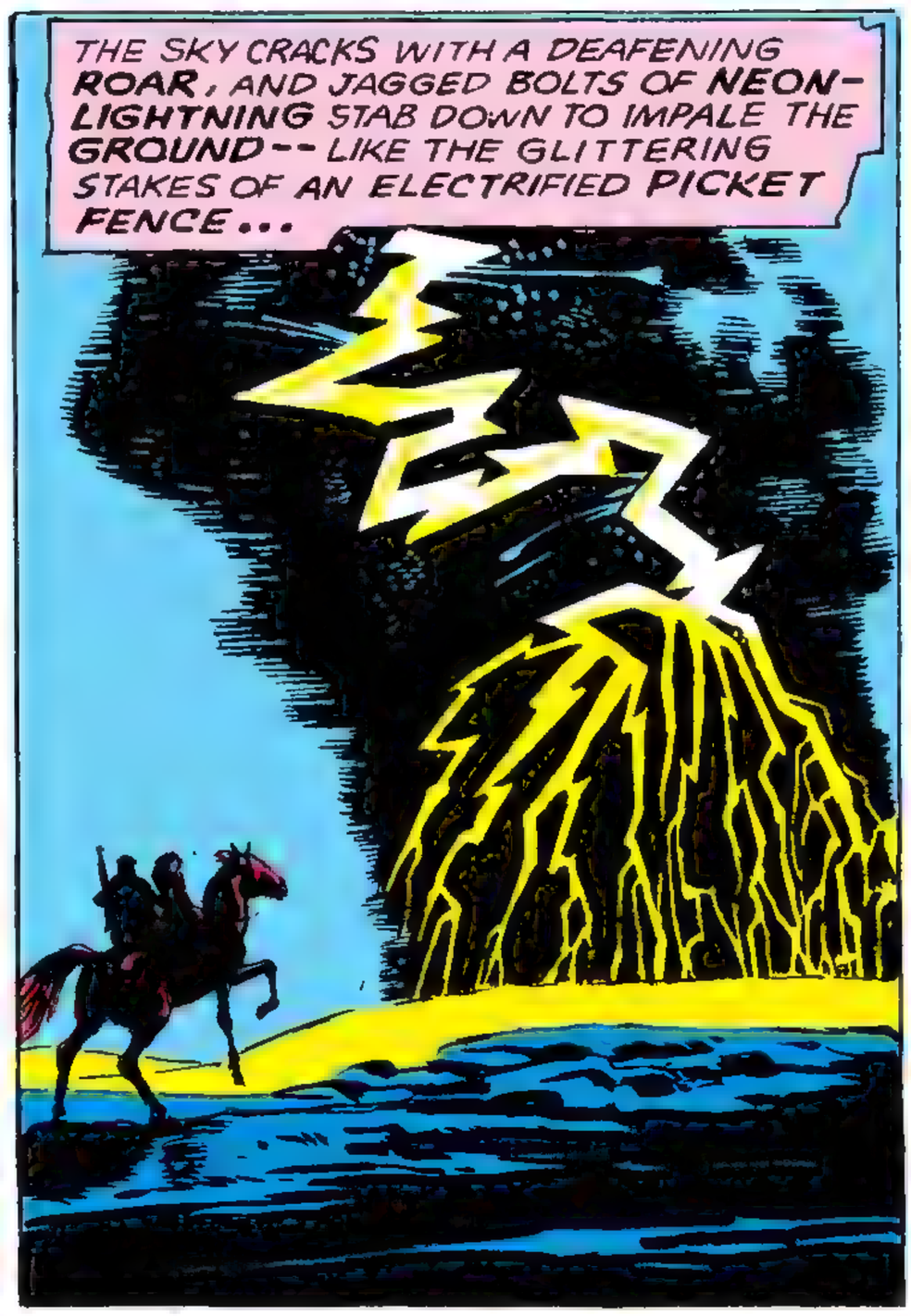
THEN, AS THEY SLOWLY APPROACH THE JUMBLE OF CHARRED RUINS...


... A WALL OF WHINING FLAME ABRUPTLY SPURTS FROM THE GROUND...
WHAT... WHAT THE DEVIL'S FEEDING IT--?!
THERE'S NOTHING TO BURN!!

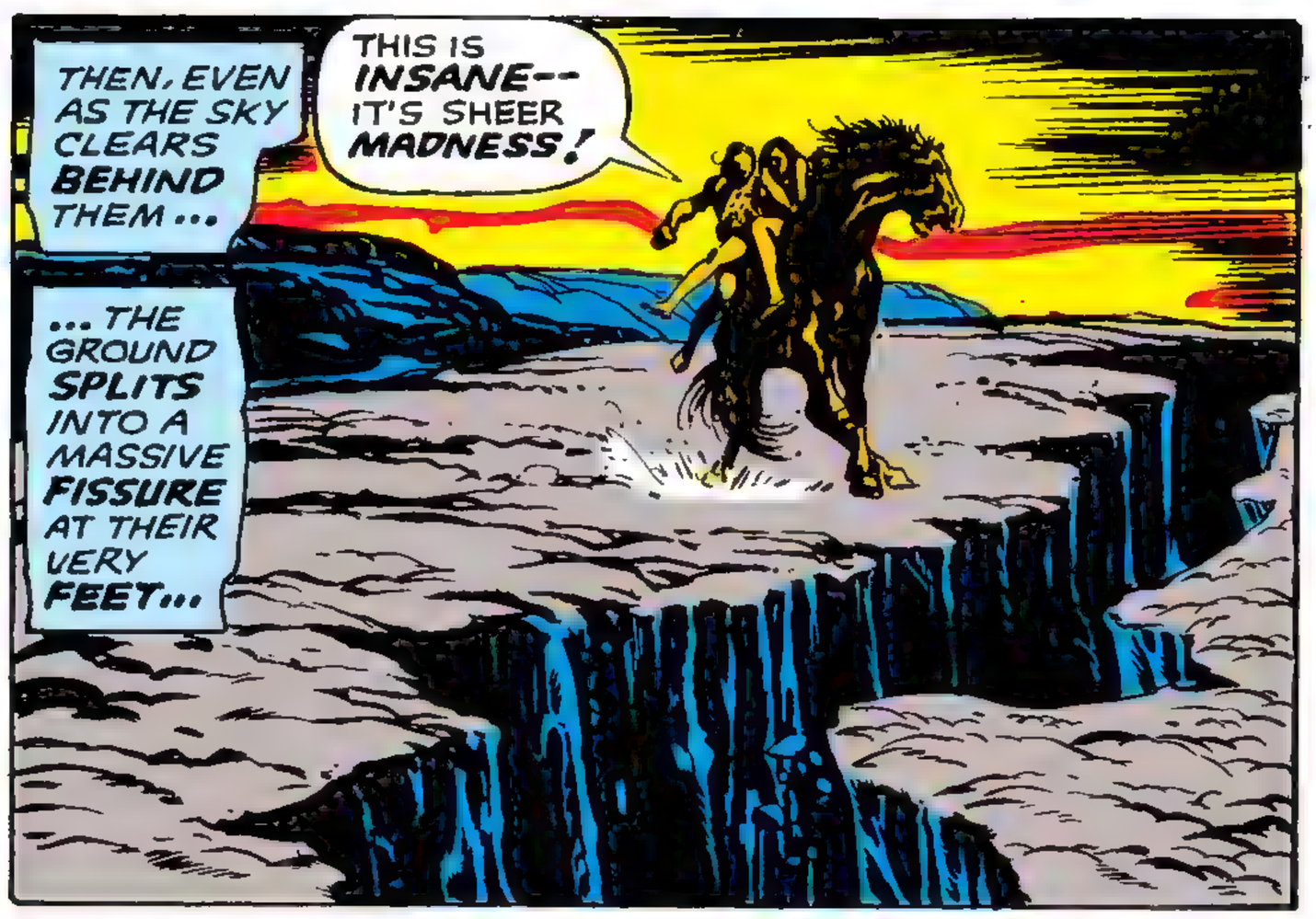

PANICKED, TAYLOR'S MOUNT BOLTS AWAY FROM THE CRACKLING SCREEN OF FIRE...
HANG ON, NOVA-- IF I CAN GET THIS HORSE UNDER CONTROL, WE'LL BE ABLE TO TRY A DIFFERENT APPROACH...

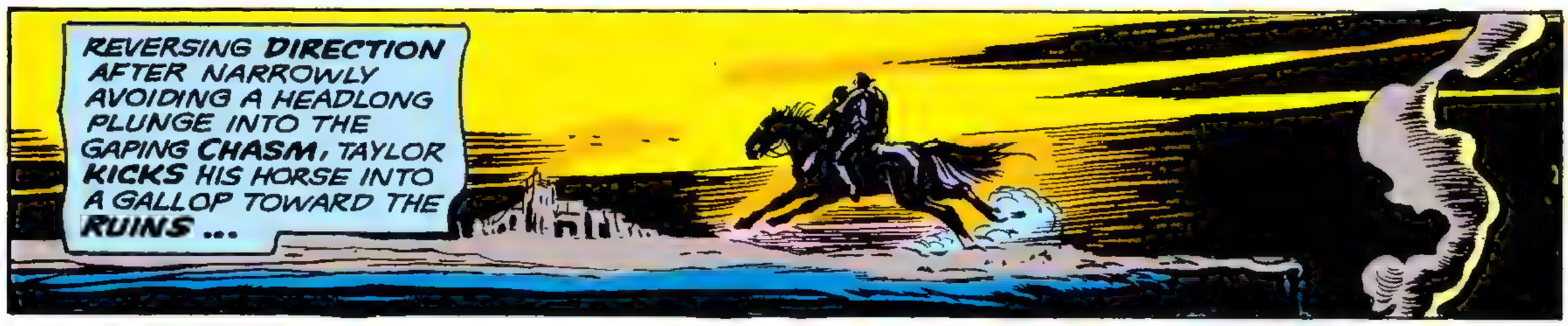

THEN, WITH THE HORSE SUFFICIENTLY RESTRAINED...
OKAY, HERE WE GO AGAIN...
BUT BEFORE TAYLOR'S SECOND APPROACH IS SCARCELY BEGUN--

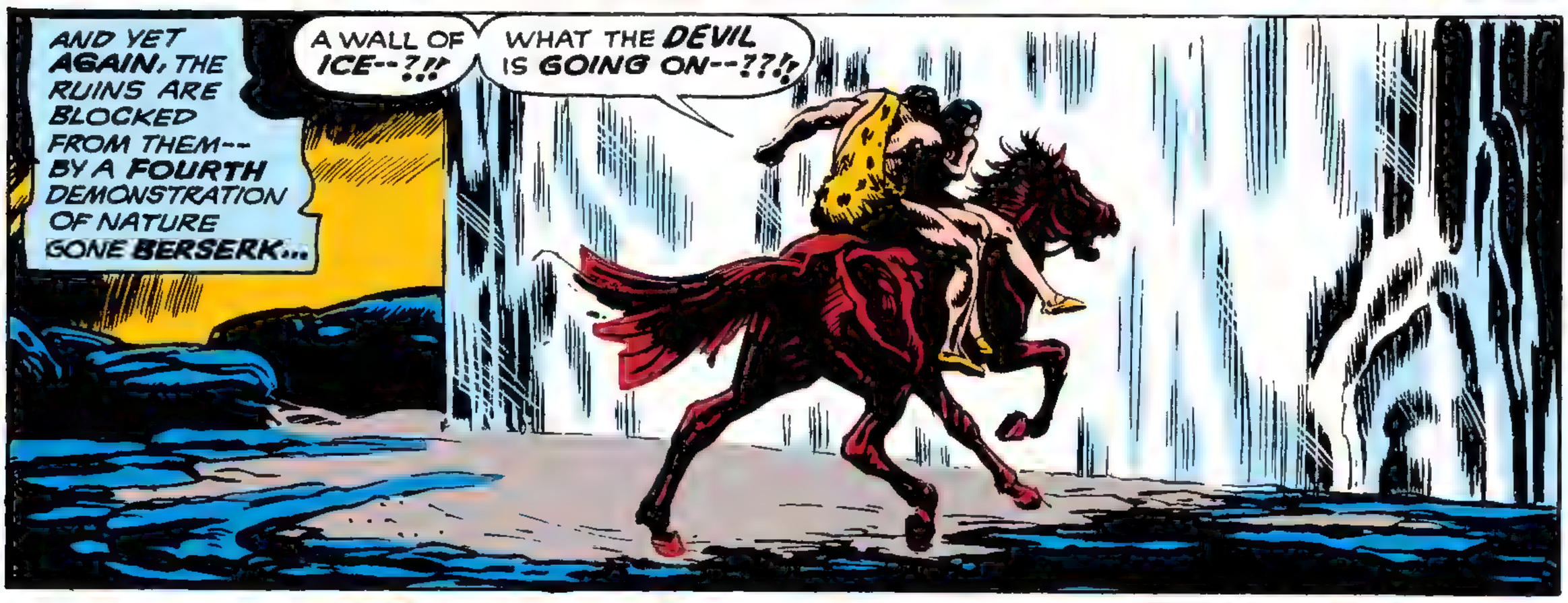
-- THE SKIES BLACKEN WITH THICK STORM CLOUDS, FORMED INSTANTLY AND FROM NOTHING...
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE--!!


THE SKY CRACKS WITH A DEAFENING ROAR, AND JAGGED BOLTS OF NEON-LIGHTNING STAB DOWN TO IMPALE THE GROUND-- LIKE THE GLITTERING STAKES OF AN ELECTRIFIED PICKET FENCE...

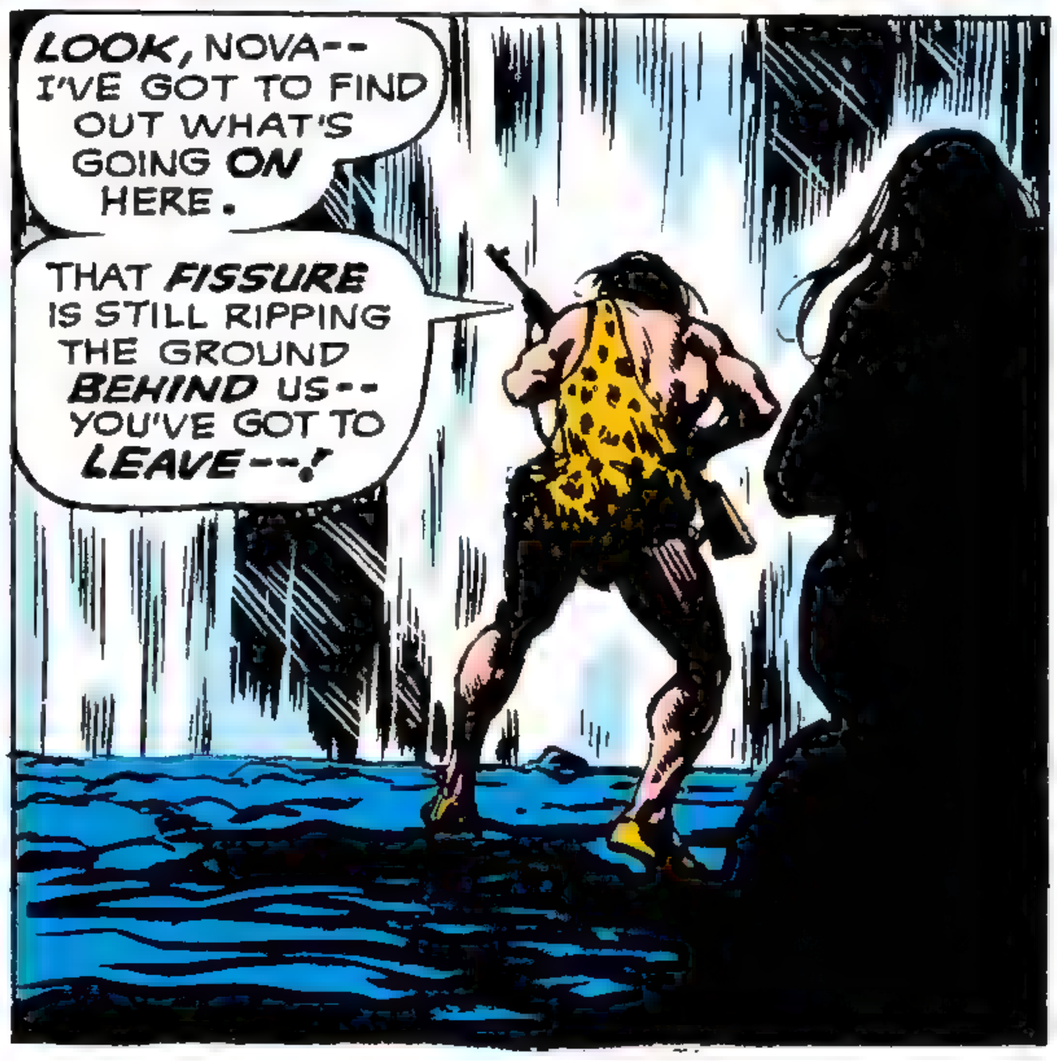
AGAIN, TAYLOR'S MOUNT BOLTS IN PANICKED FRENZY...
SEEMS NATURE'S HELL-BENT ON WIPING OUT OUR MISTAKE--!


THEN, EVEN AS THE SKY CLEARS BEHIND THEM...
THIS IS INSANE-- IT'S SHEER MADNESS!
...THE GROUND SPLITS INTO A MASSIVE FISSURE AT THEIR VERY FEET...


REVERSING DIRECTION AFTER NARROWLY AVOIDING A HEADLONG PLUNGE INTO THE GAPING CHASM, TAYLOR KICKS HIS HORSE INTO A GALLOP TOWARD THE RUINS...

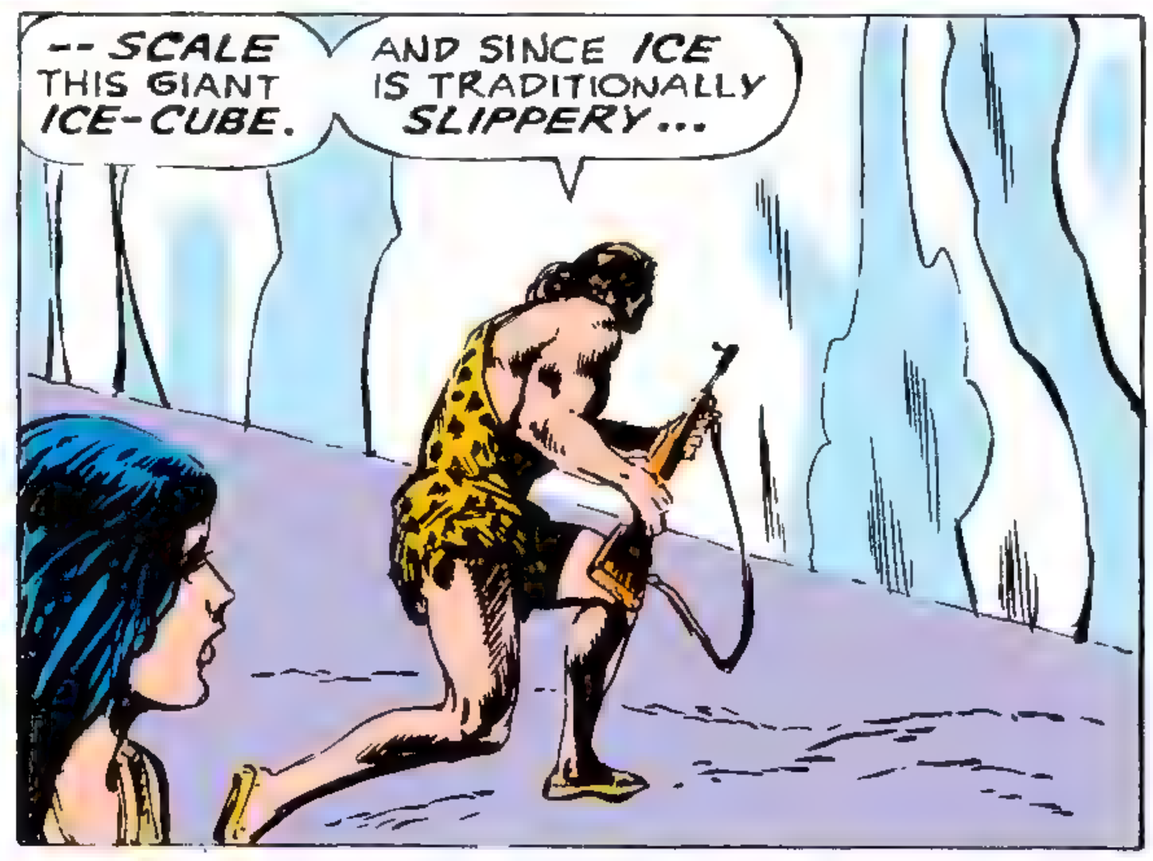

AND YET AGAIN, THE RUINS ARE BLOCKED FROM THEM-- BY A FOURTH DEMONSTRATION OF NATURE GONE BERSERK...
A WALL OF ICE--?!!
WHAT THE DEVIL IS GOING ON--??!!

A MINUTE AGO, THAT WASN'T HERE-- IT JUST WASN'T HERE!! AND THERE'S NO WAY ON EARTH IT CAN BE HERE NOW--!
BUT IT ISN'T JUST ME WHO'S SEEING IT-- YOU SEE IT TOO, DON'T YOU, NOVA...?
CAN TWO PEOPLE HAVE THE SAME NIGHT-MARE?!

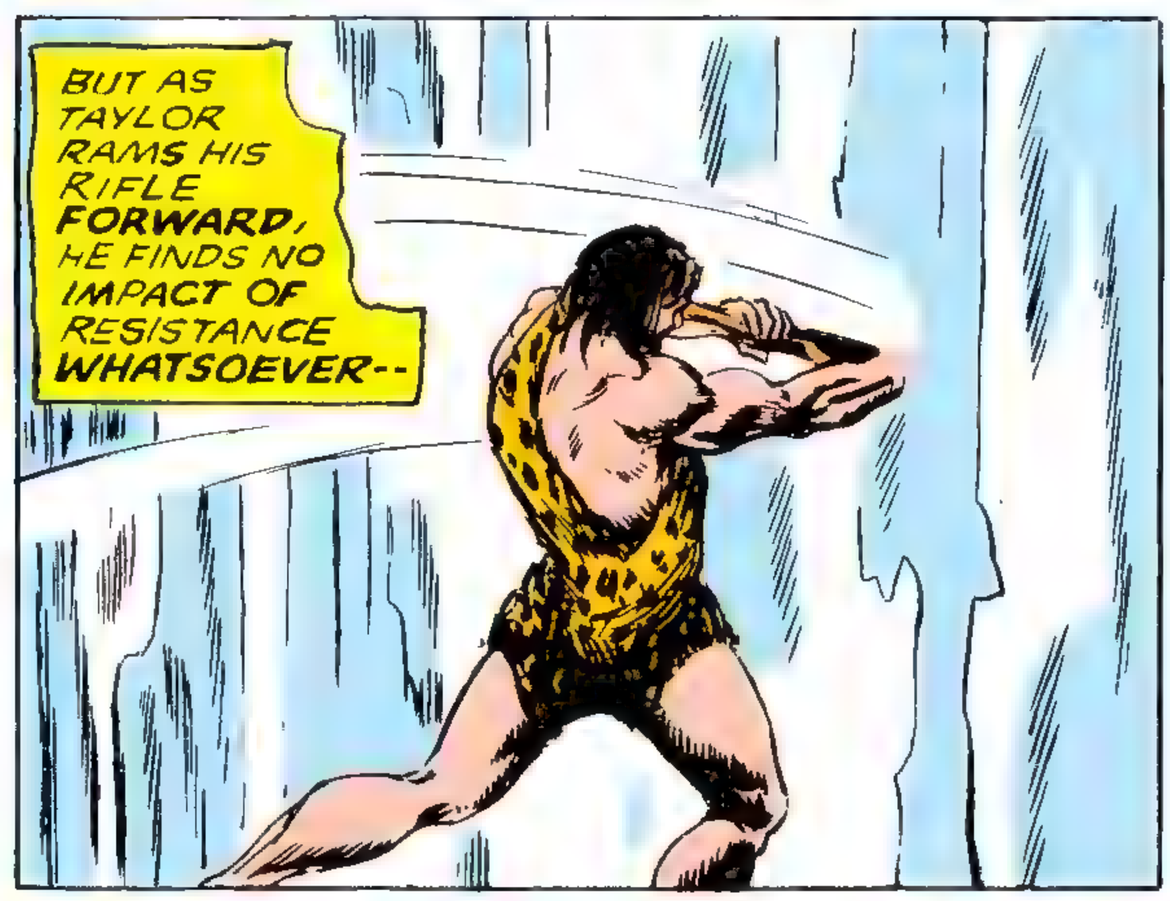

LOOK, NOVA-- I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.
THAT FISSURE IS STILL RIPPING THE GROUND BEHIND US-- YOU'VE GOT TO LEAVE--!

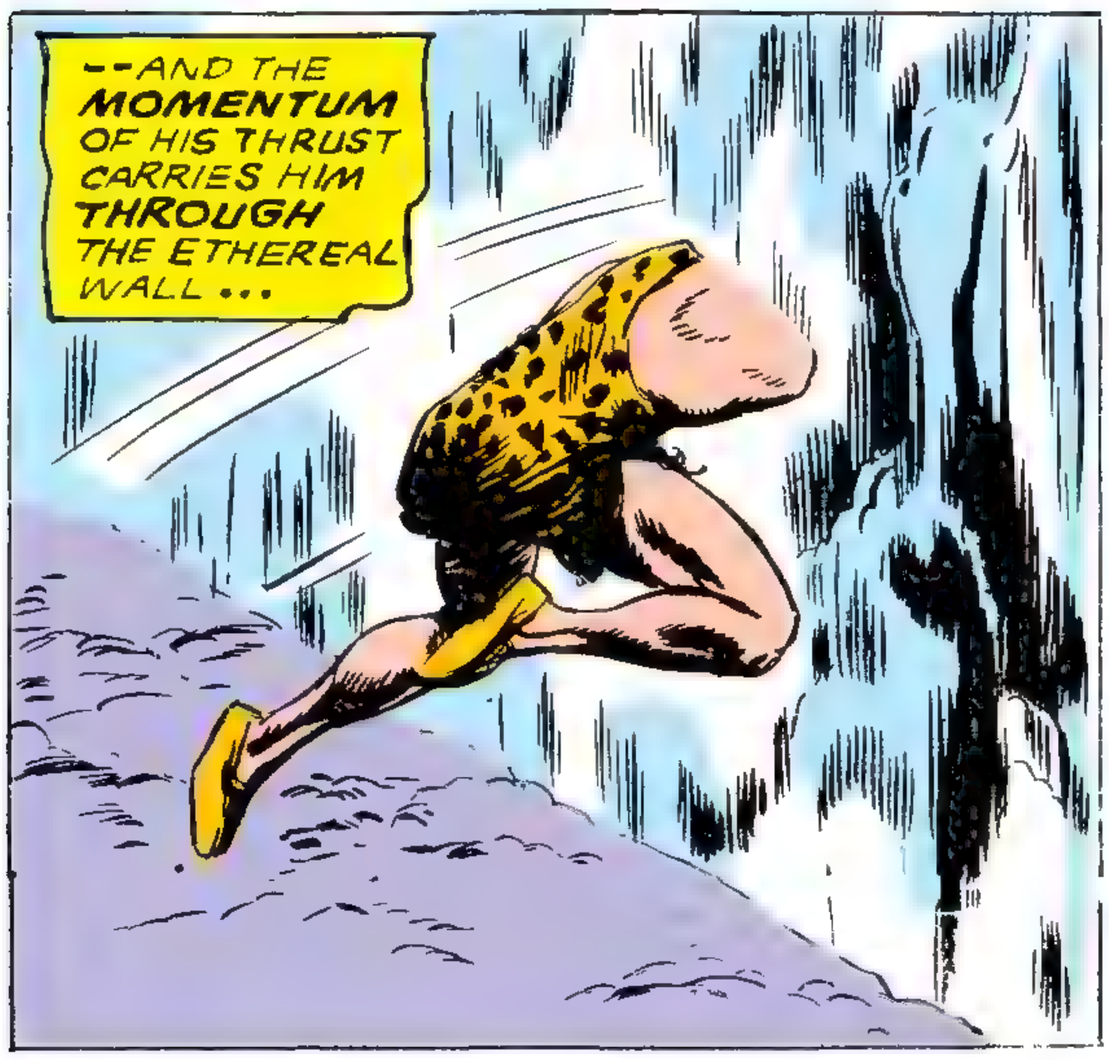
GO TO THE APE CITY-- NOT TO THE GORILLA'S...
GO TO THE CHIMPANZEE QUARTER--THERE'S NO OTHER WAY--! FIND ZIRA--ZI-RA... DO YOU UNDER-STAND?

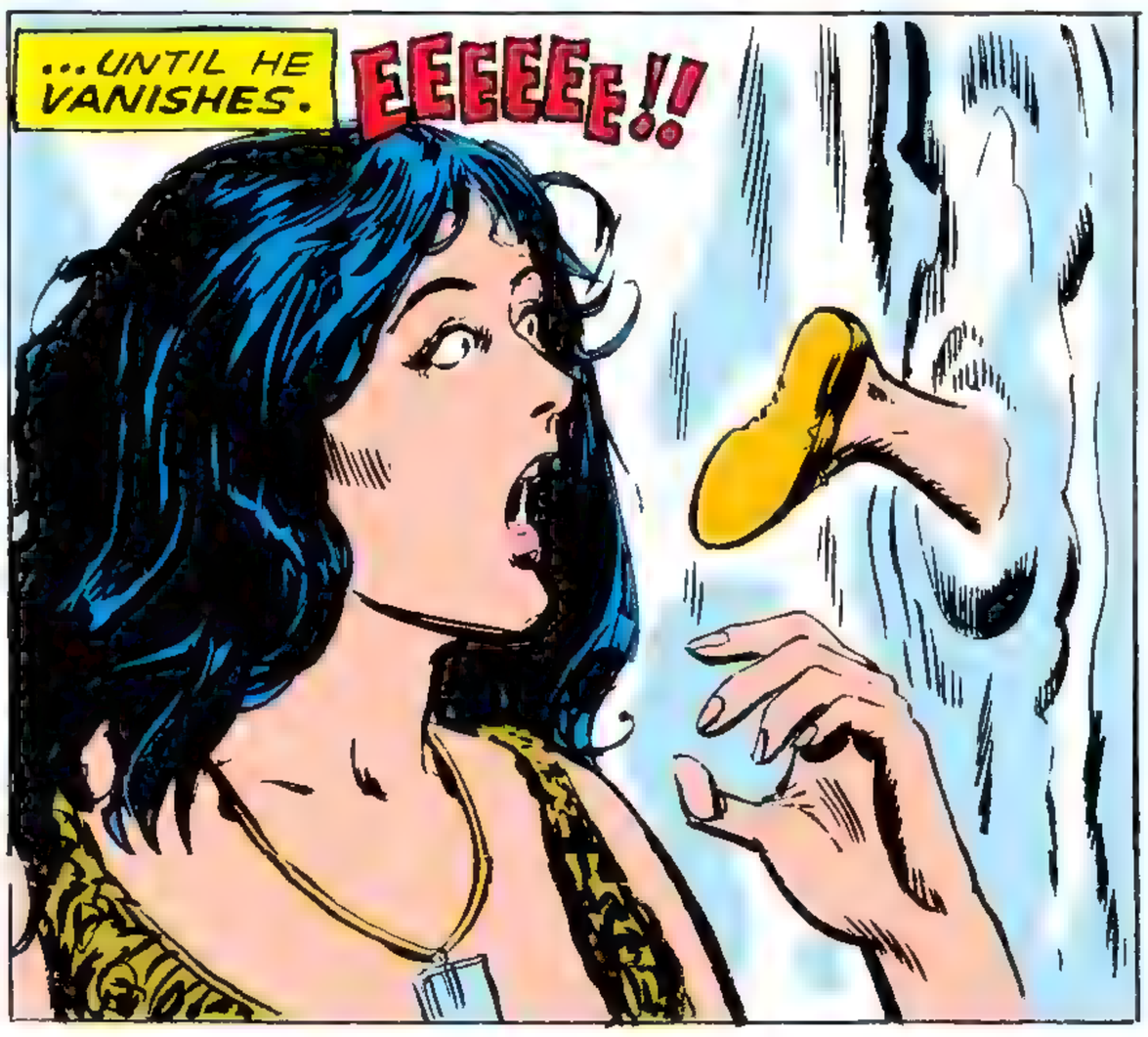
WELL, I HOPE THAT WAS A NOD YOU JUST GAVE ME... BECAUSE IT'S TIME FOR ME TO --

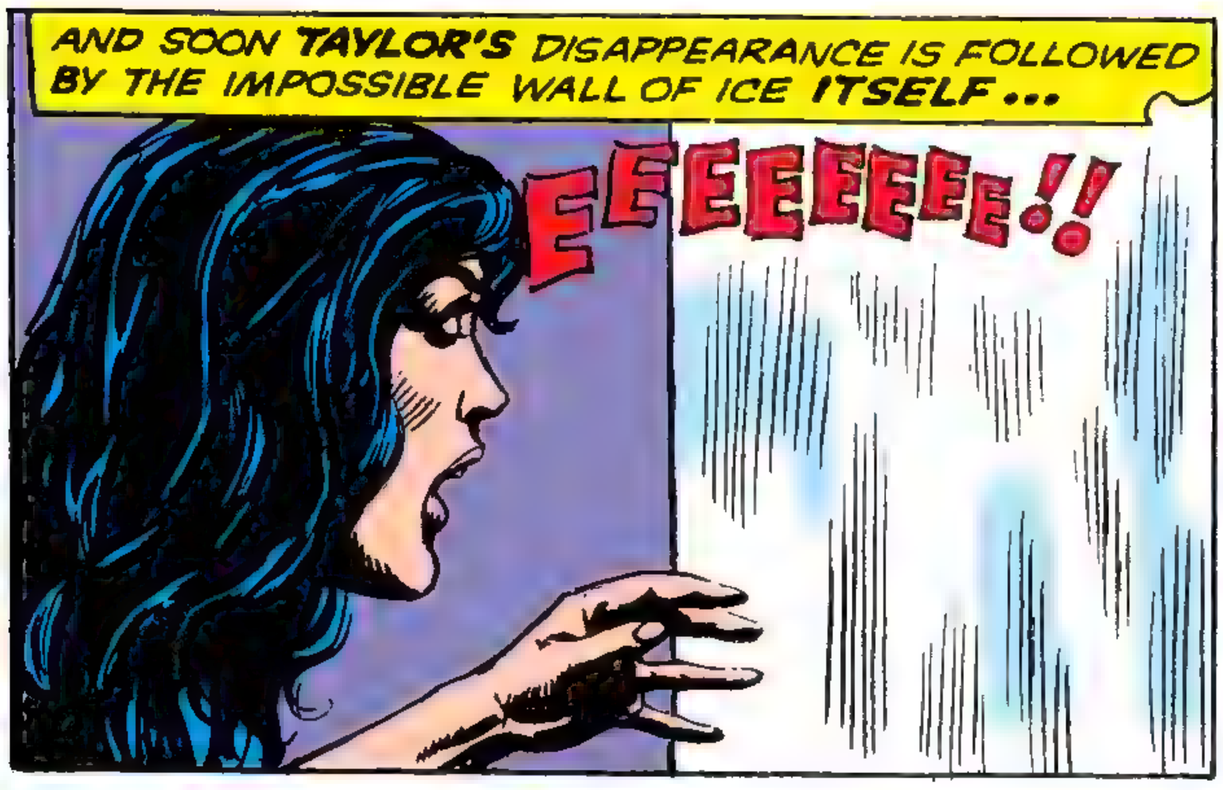

--SCALE THIS GIANT ICE-CUBE.
AND SINCE ICE IS TRADITIONALLY SLIPPERY...

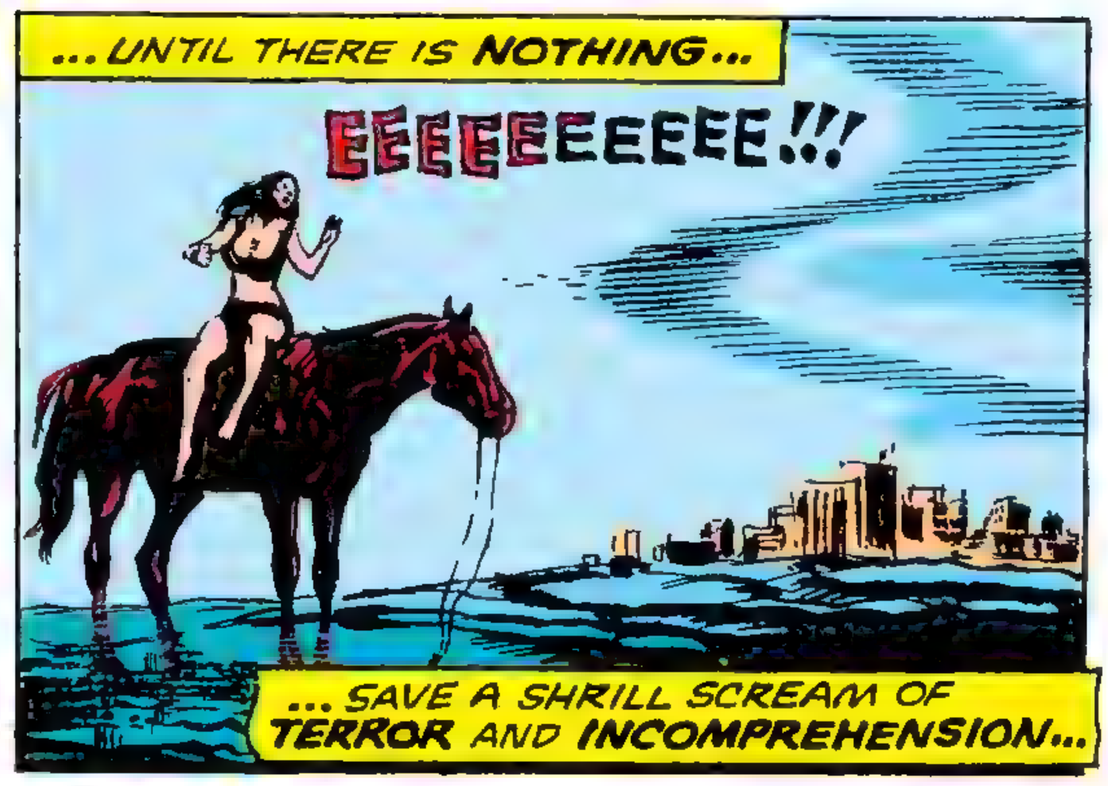
...IT LOOKS LIKE I'D BETTER USE MY RIFLE BUTT TO START CHOPPING FOOTHOLDS...

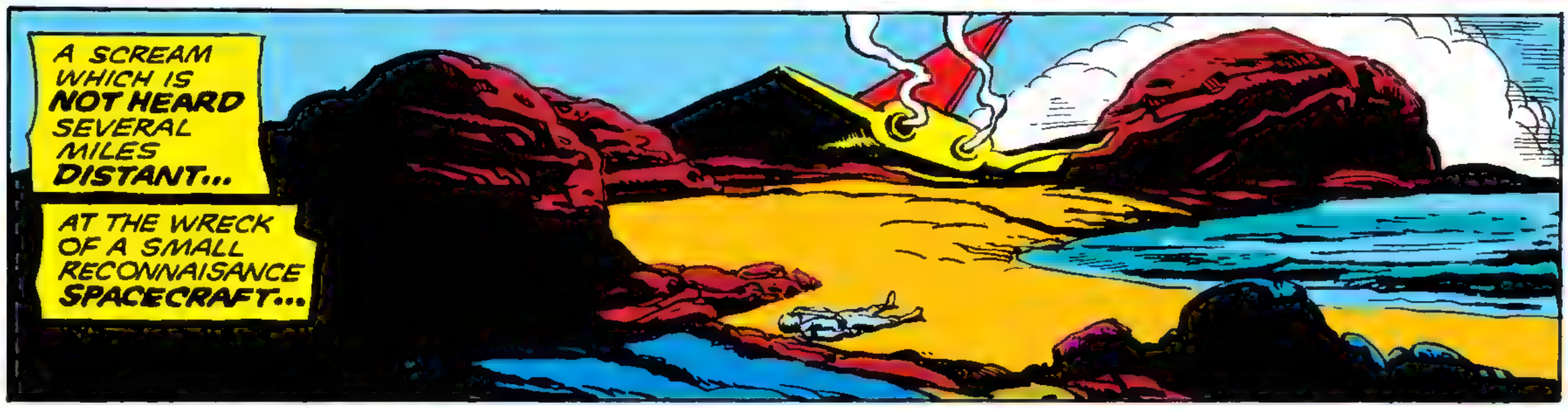

BUT AS TAYLOR RAMS HIS RIFLE FORWARD, HE FINDS NO IMPACT OF RESISTANCE WHATSOEVER--

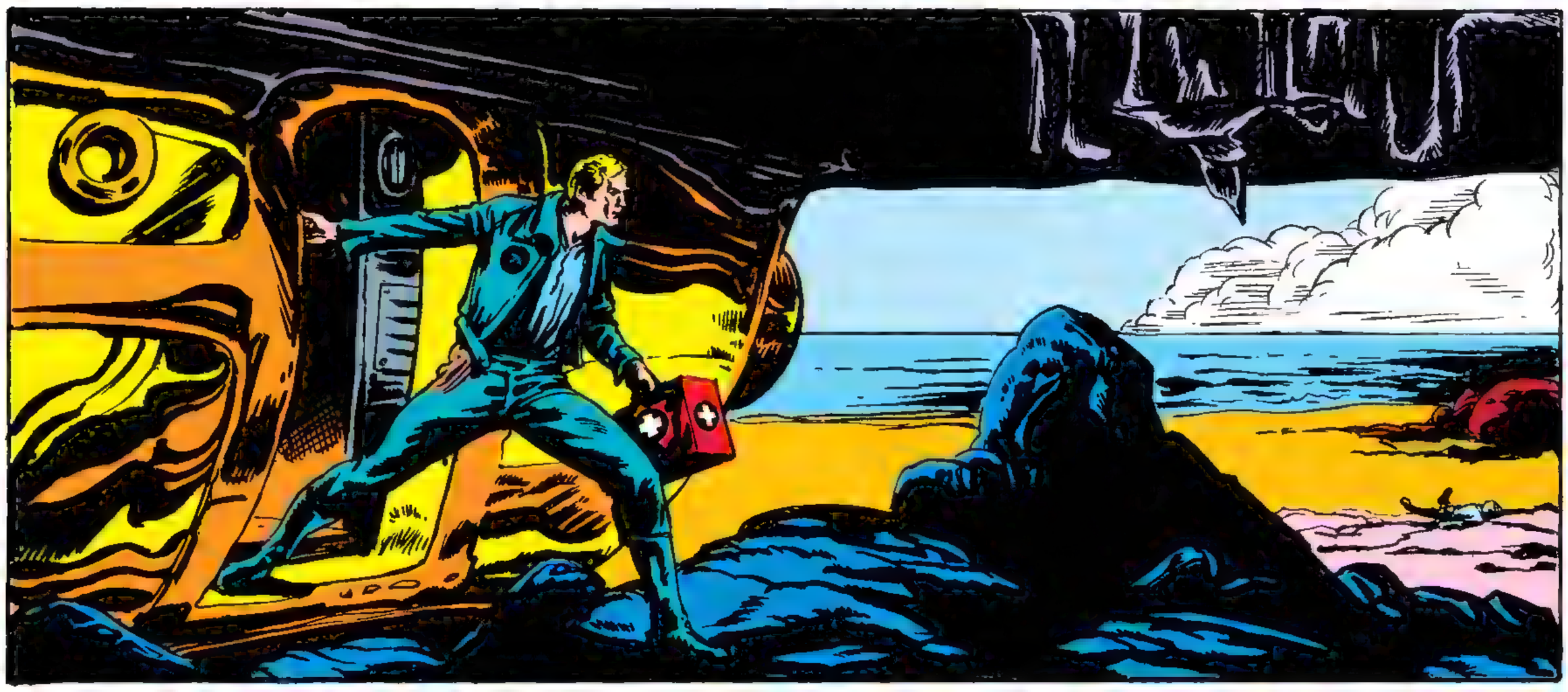

--AND THE MOMENTUM OF HIS THRUST CARRIES HIM THROUGH THE ETHEREAL WALL...

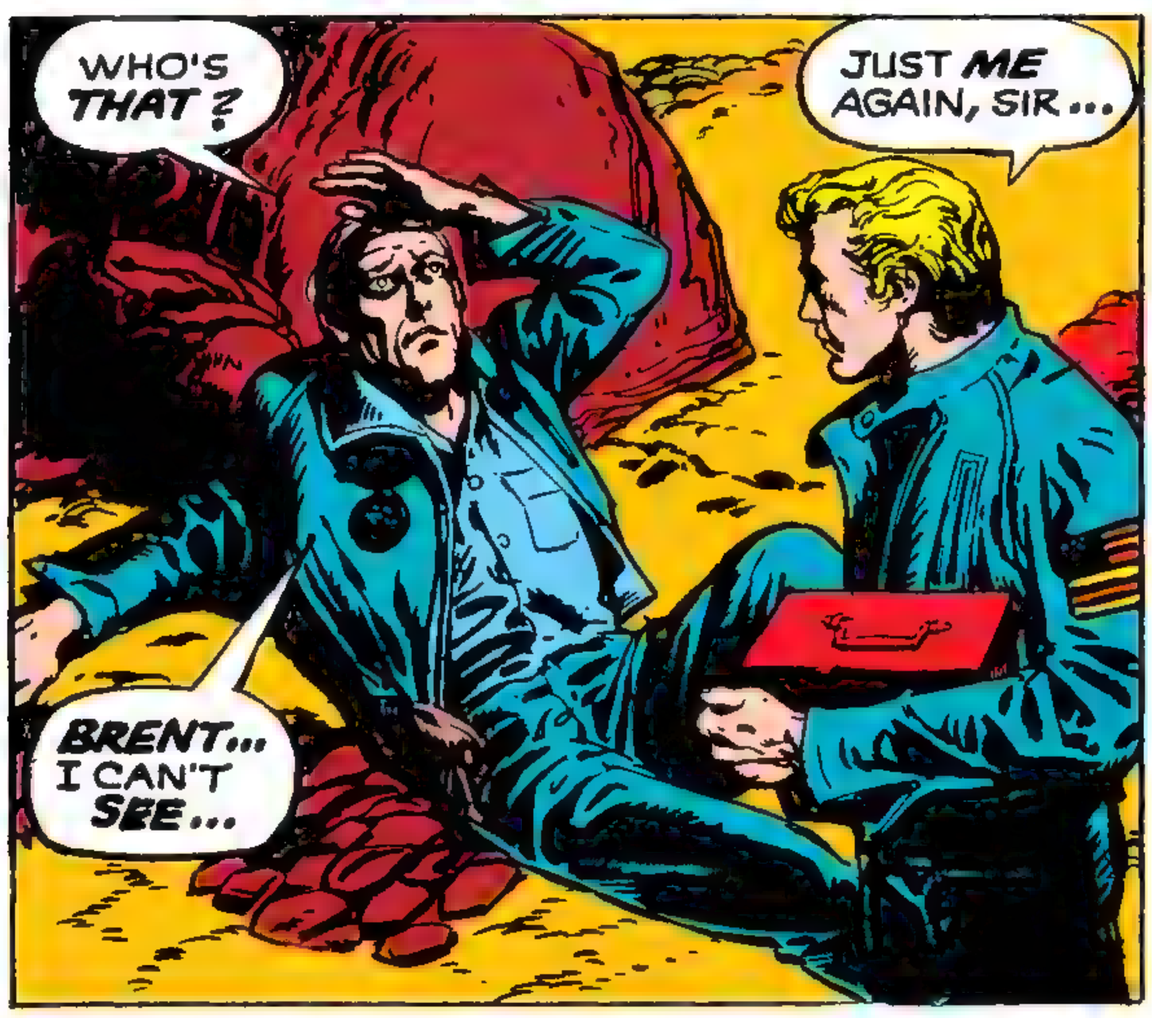

...UNTIL HE VANISHES.
EEEEEEE!!

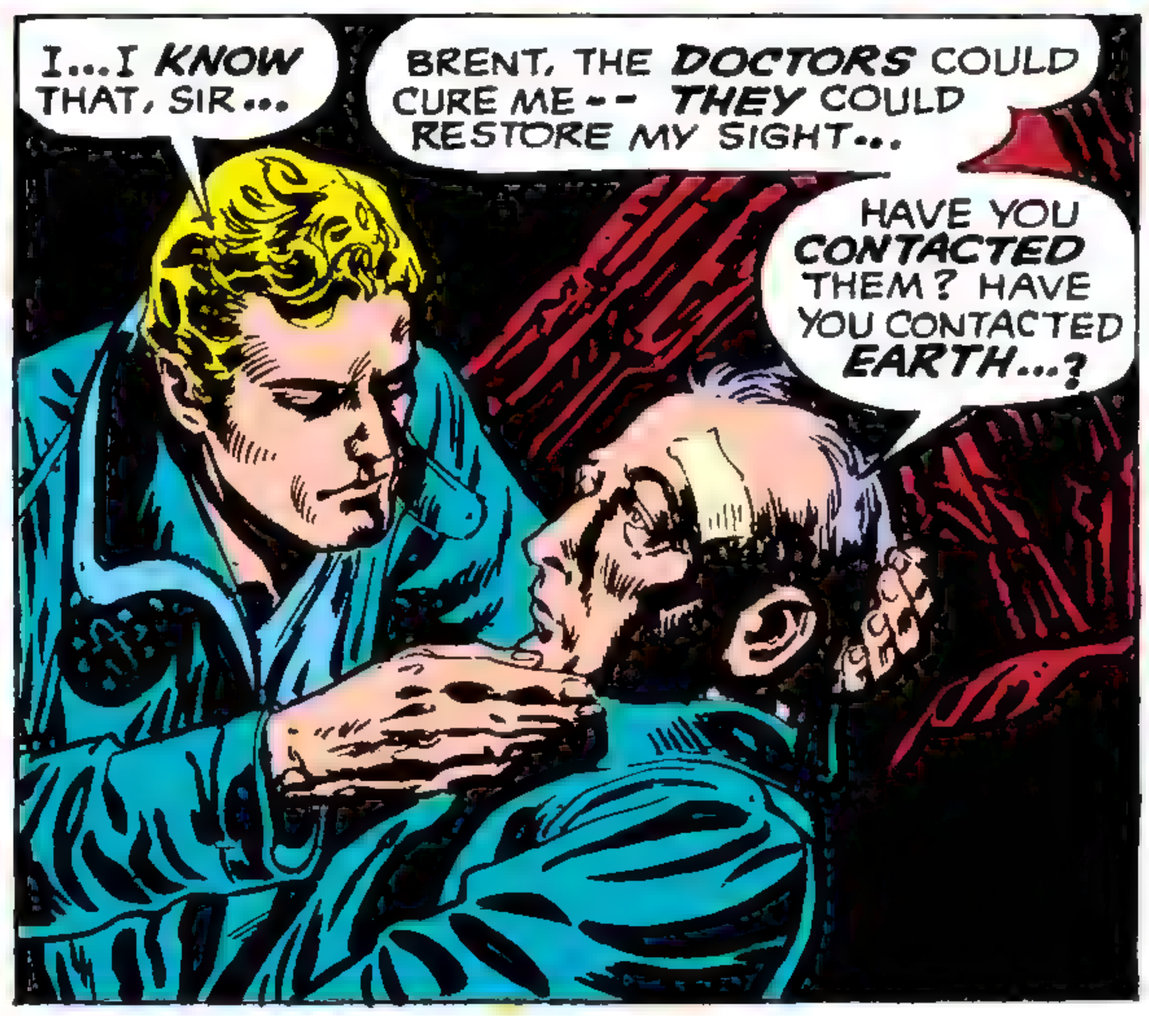

AND SOON TAYLOR'S DISAPPEARANCE IS FOLLOWED BY THE IMPOSSIBLE WALL OF ICE ITSELF...
EEEEEEEEE!!


...UNTIL THERE IS NOTHING...
EEEEEEEEEEE!!!
...SAVE A SHRILL SCREAM OF TERROR AND INCOMPREHENSION...


A SCREAM WHICH IS NOT HEARD SEVERAL MILES DISTANT...
AT THE WRECK OF A SMALL RECONNAISANCE SPACECRAFT...



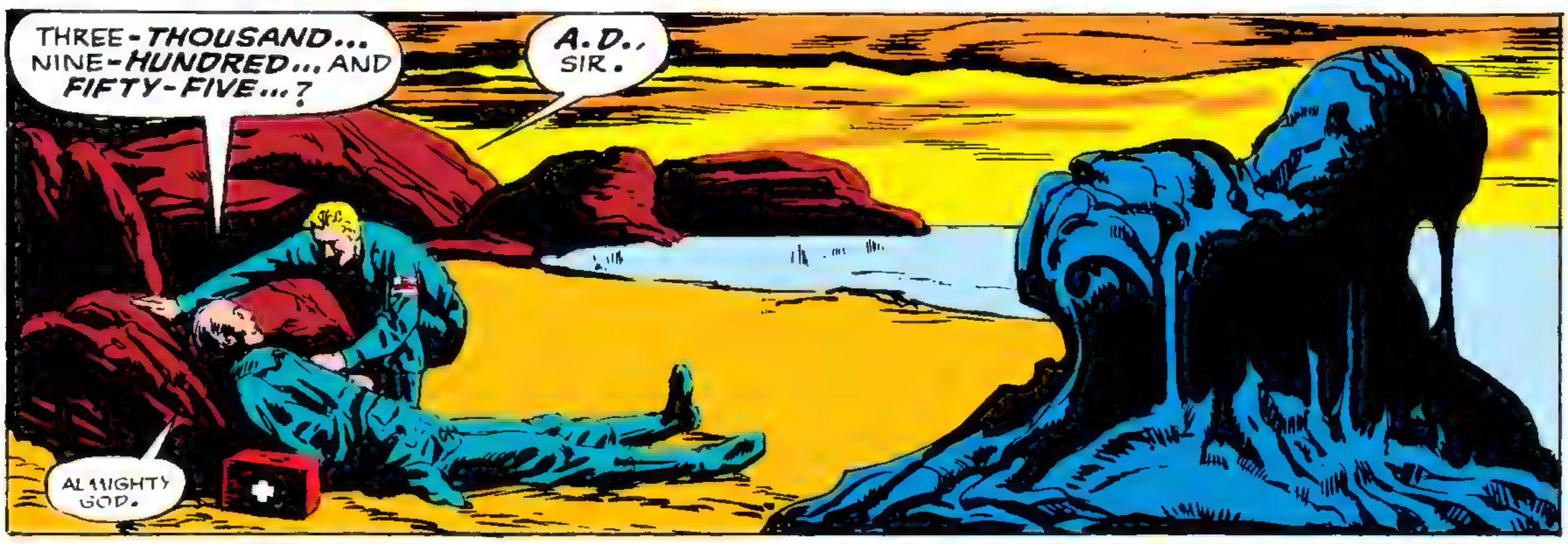

WHO'S THAT?
JUST ME AGAIN, SIR...
BRENT... I CAN'T SEE...

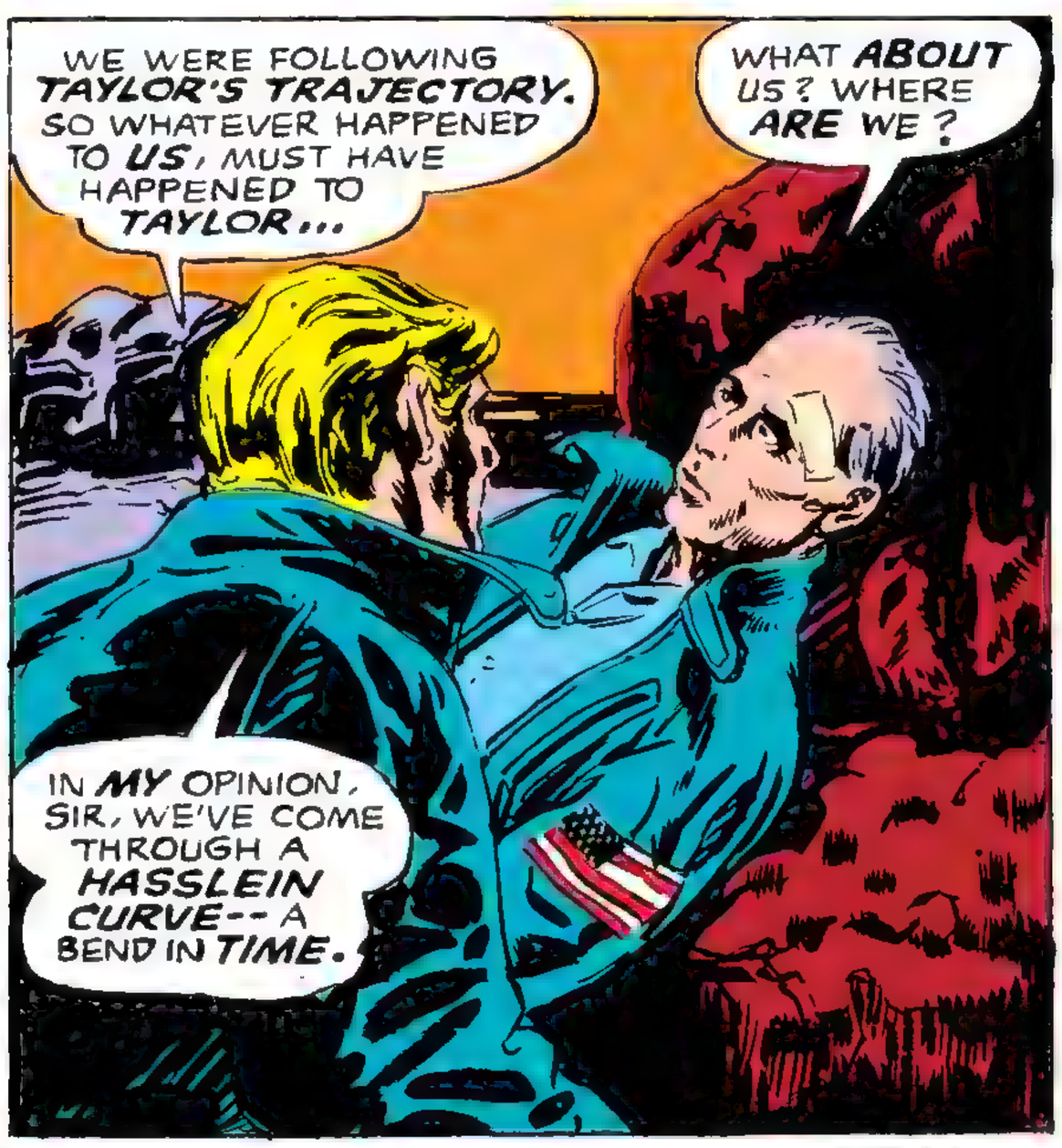

I...I KNOW THAT, SIR...
BRENT, THE DOCTORS COULD CURE ME -- THEY COULD RESTORE MY SIGHT...
HAVE YOU CONTACTED THEM? HAVE YOU CONTACTED EARTH...?

TRIED TO, SIR. NOT A CRACKLE.
ISN'T THE SET OPERATIONAL?
I DON'T KNOW, SIR. I RAN A CROSS-CHECK OF THE OPERATIONS MANUAL. AS SUGGESTED, I TOOK AN EARTH-TIME READING JUST BEFORE RE-ENTRY.

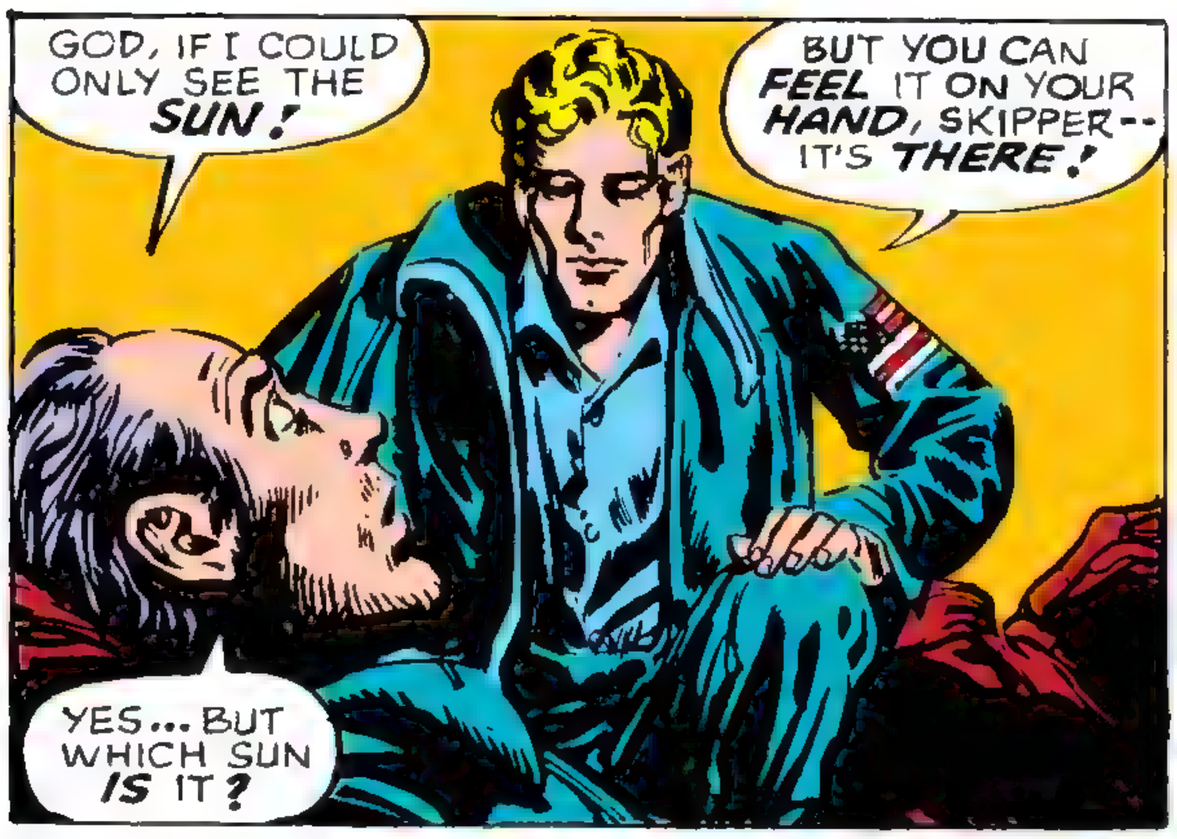
W-WELL...? WHAT WAS...THE READING...?
THREE--NINE--FIVE--FIVE.
HOURS? THERE ARE ONLY TWENTY-FOUR--

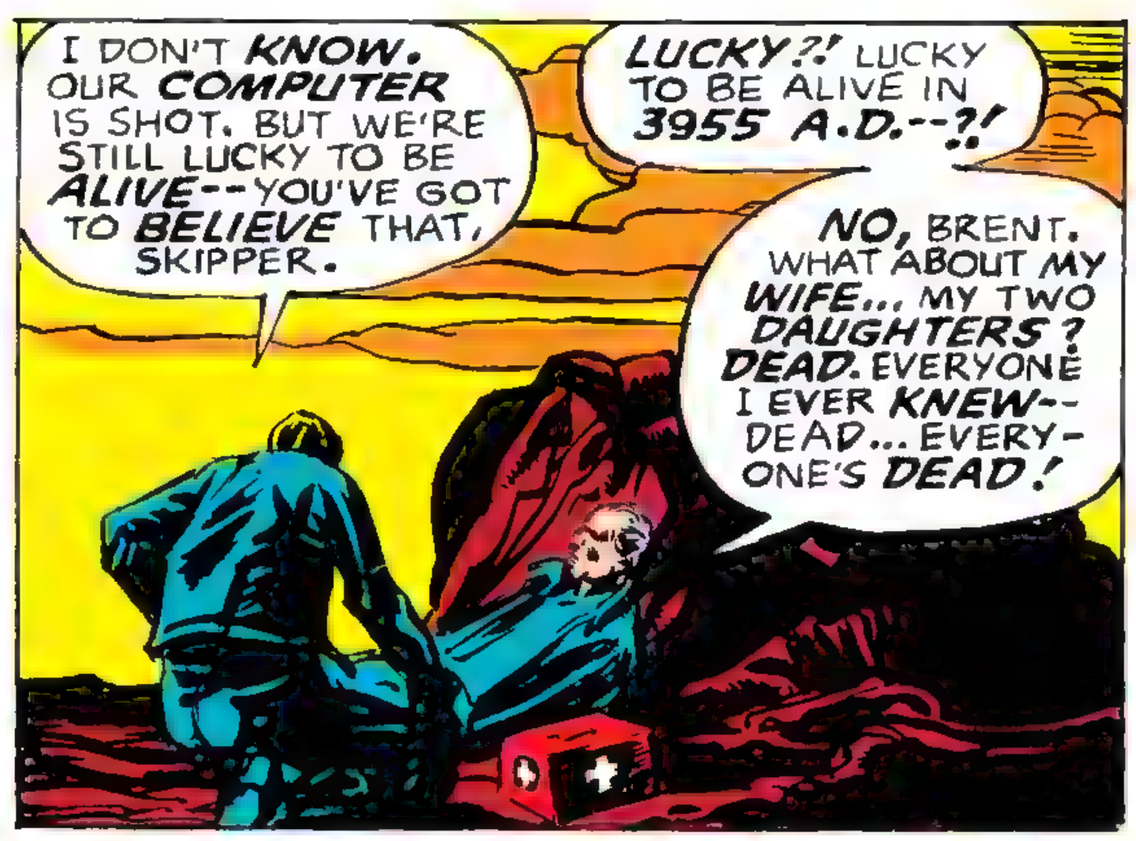
NOT HOURS.
YEARS.


THREE-THOUSAND... NINE-HUNDRED... AND FIFTY-FIVE...?
A.D., SIR.
ALMIGHTY GOD.


WE WERE FOLLOWING TAYLOR'S TRAJECTORY. SO WHATEVER HAPPENED TO US, MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO TAYLOR...
WHAT ABOUT US? WHERE ARE WE?
IN MY OPINION, SIR, WE'VE COME THROUGH A HASSLEIN CURVE-- A BEND IN TIME.

LOOK, I DON'T KNOW WHAT PLANET WE'RE ON-- BUT WE'RE BOTH HERE AND WE'RE BREATHING. WE'RE CONSCIOUS. THERE'S OXYGEN ON THIS PLANET-- AND WATER.
YOU'LL BE OKAY, SKIPPER. WE'LL RUN A NAVIGATIONAL ESTIMATE AND--

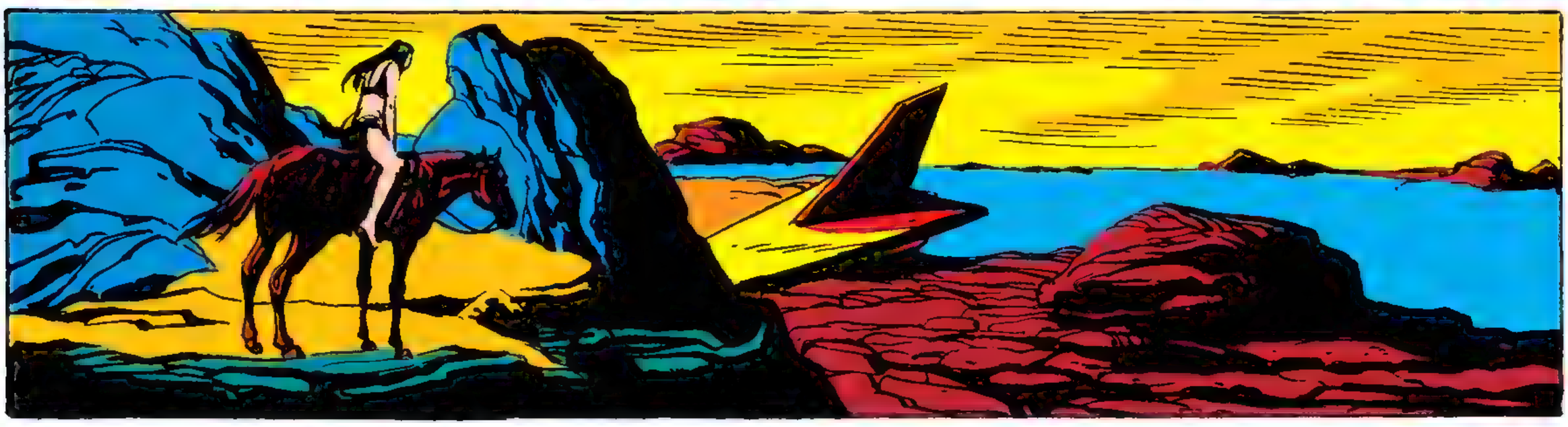

GOD, IF I COULD ONLY SEE THE SUN!
BUT YOU CAN FEEL IT ON YOUR HAND, SKIPPER-- IT'S THERE!
YES... BUT WHICH SUN IS IT?

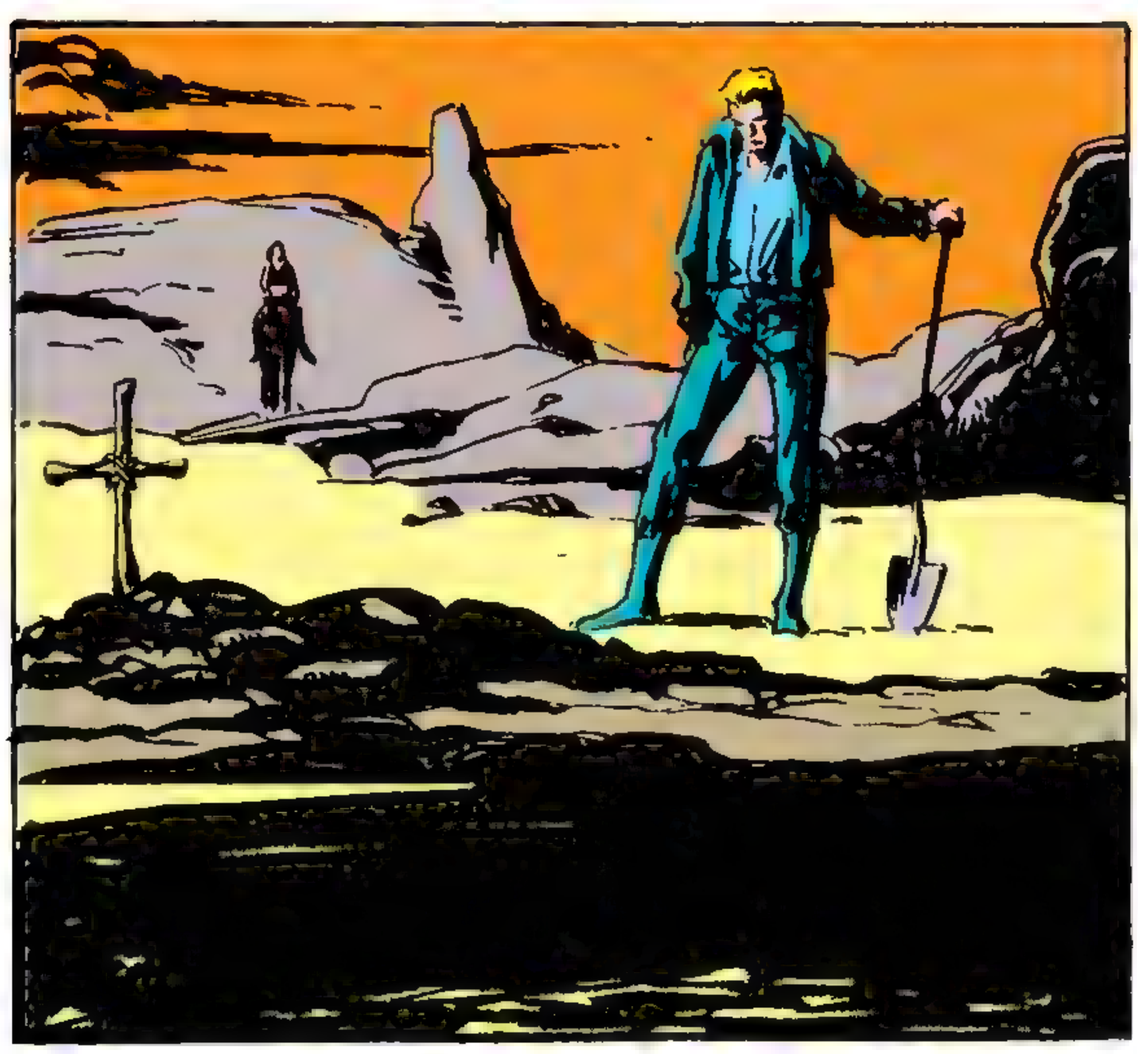

I DON'T KNOW. OUR COMPUTER IS SHOT. BUT WE'RE STILL LUCKY TO BE ALIVE--YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE THAT, SKIPPER.
LUCKY?! LUCKY TO BE ALIVE IN 3955 A.D.--?!
NO, BRENT. WHAT ABOUT MY WIFE... MY TWO DAUGHTERS? DEAD. EVERYONE I EVER KNEW-- DEAD... EVERYONE'S DEAD!

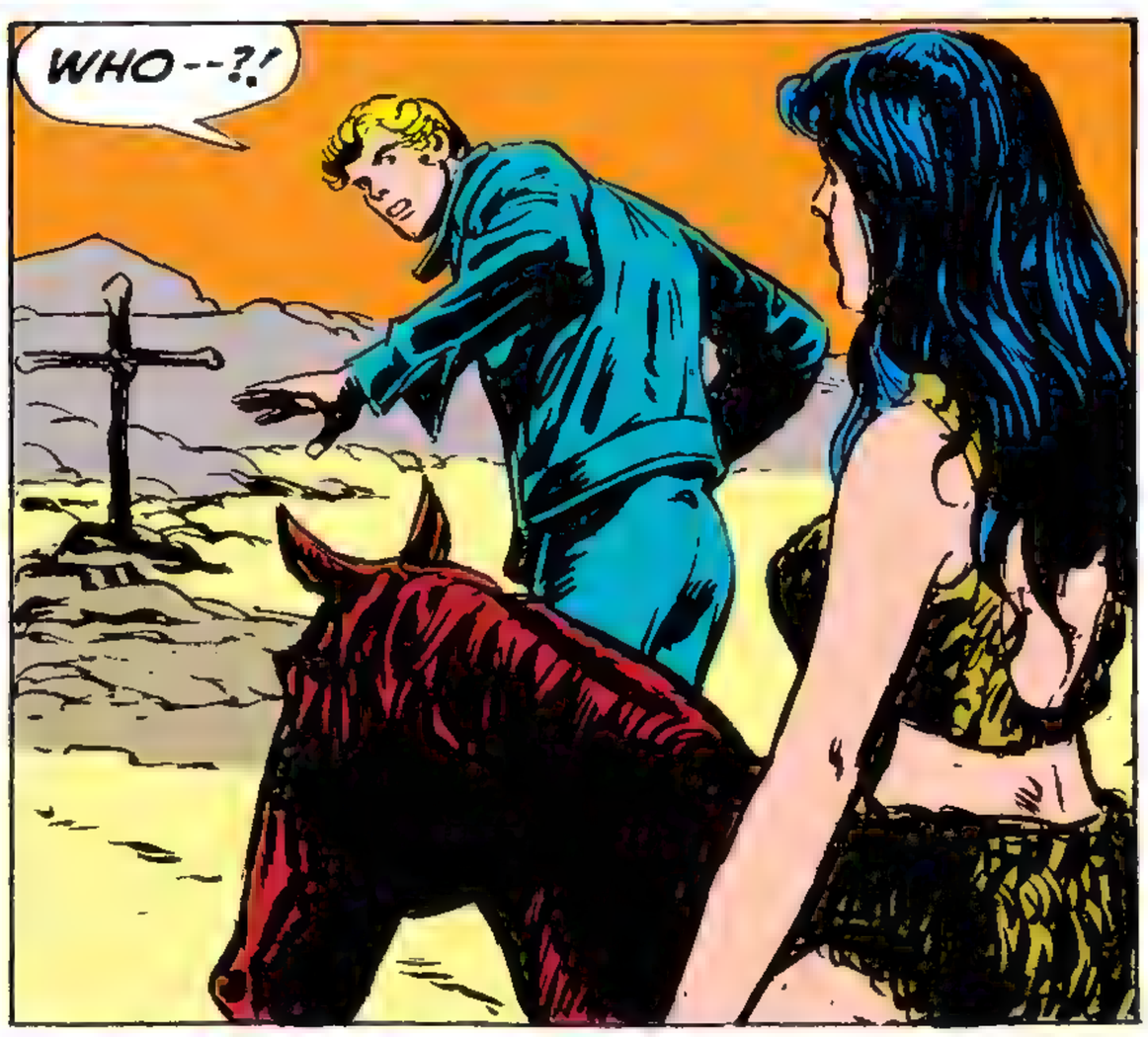
YES, SIR. BUT I'M TRYING NOT TO BELIEVE IT...
IT'S QUIET HERE, SIR. GOD, IT'S QUIET...

PAIN, BRENT-- RIBS CRUSHING MY LUNGS...
OXYGEN-- MORE OXYGEN...
YES, SIR... YOU'RE GOING TO BE FINE.

HANG ON, SIR... AND YOU'LL PULL THROUGH FINE...
...JUST FINE...






WHO--?!

WHO ARE YOU?

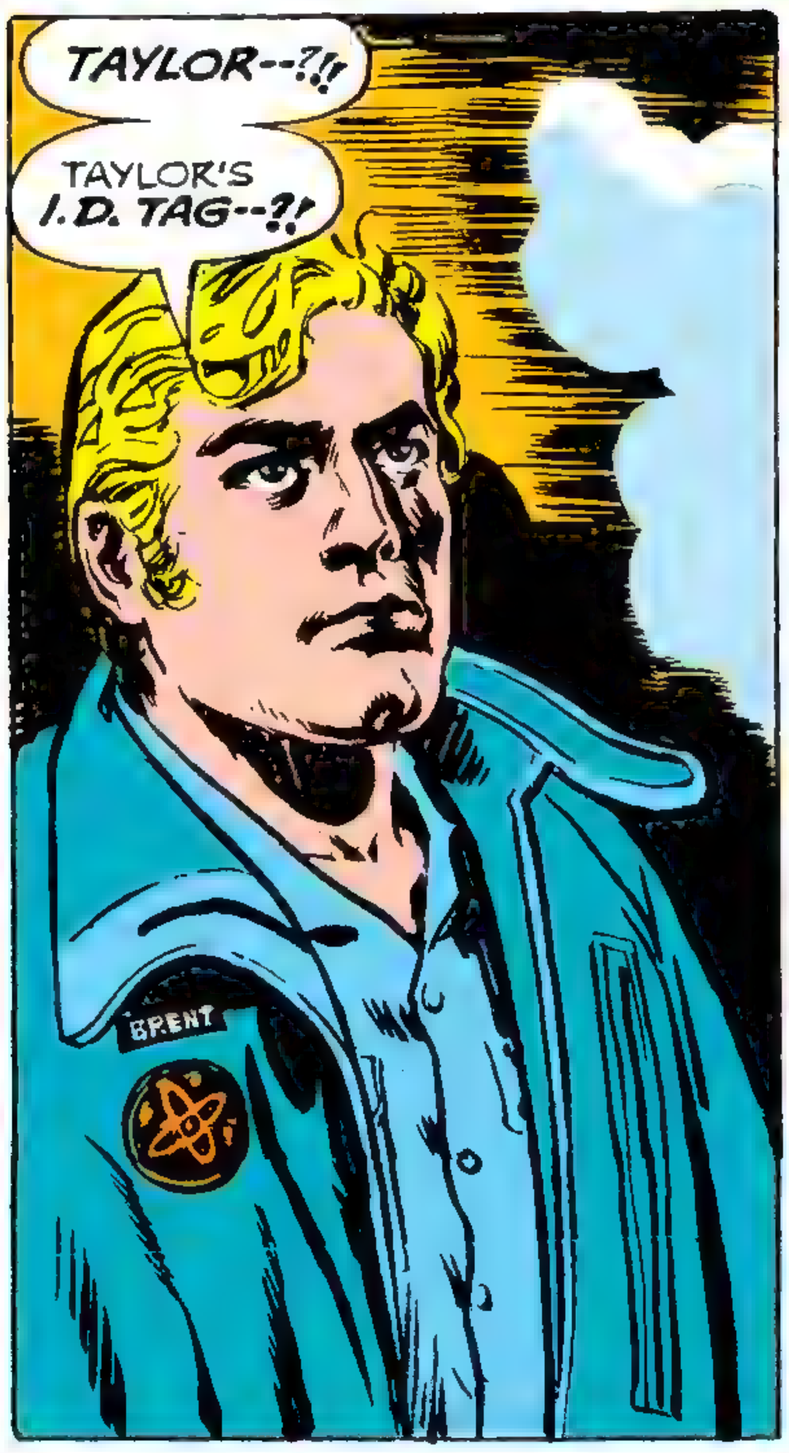
YOU NEEDN'T BE FRIGHTENED OF ME. JUST TELL ME WHERE I AM.

LOOK, MY NAME'S BRENT. WHERE ARE YOU FROM? WHERE ARE YOUR PEOPLE?
HOW DO I GET TO THEM? WHICH WAY?

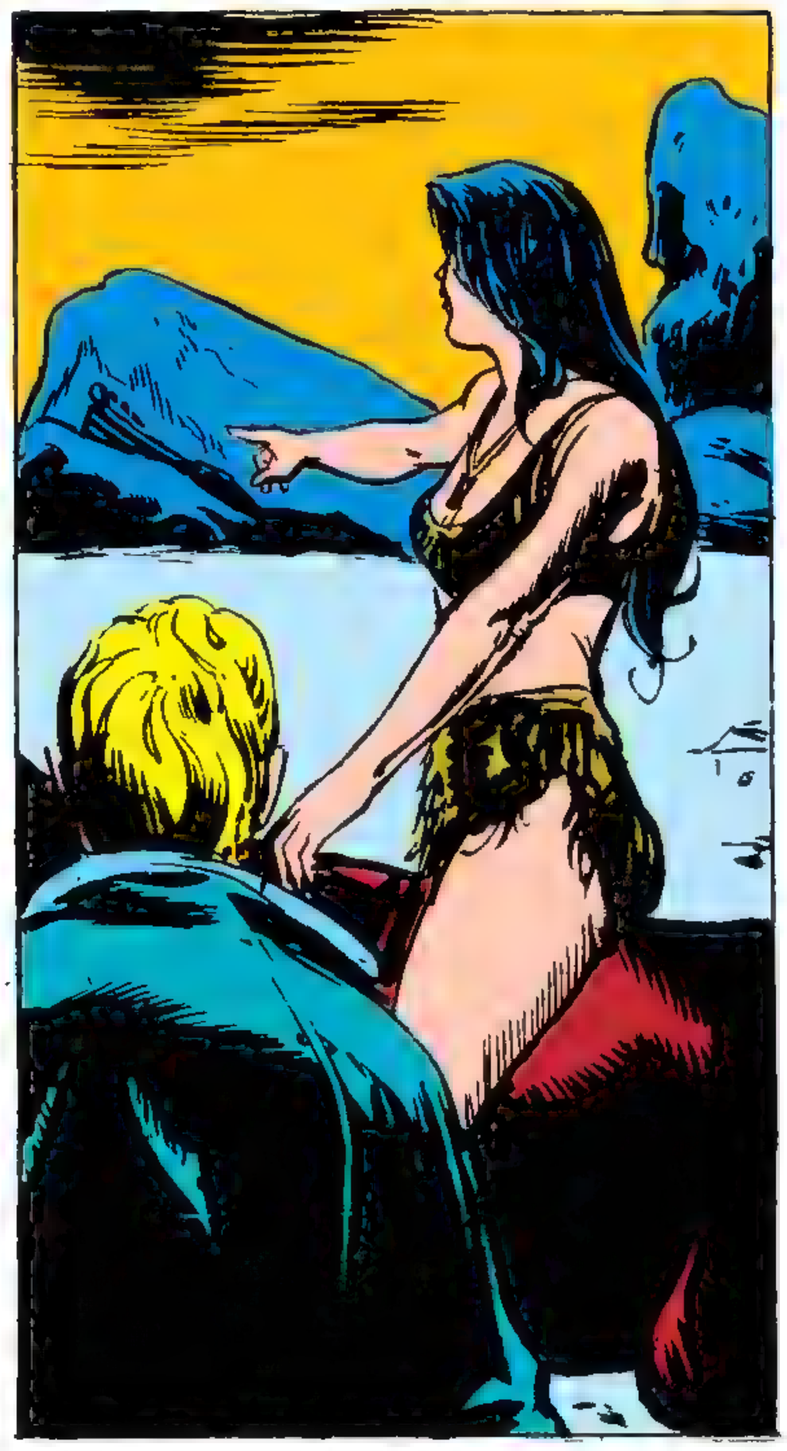
YOU CAN'T TALK.

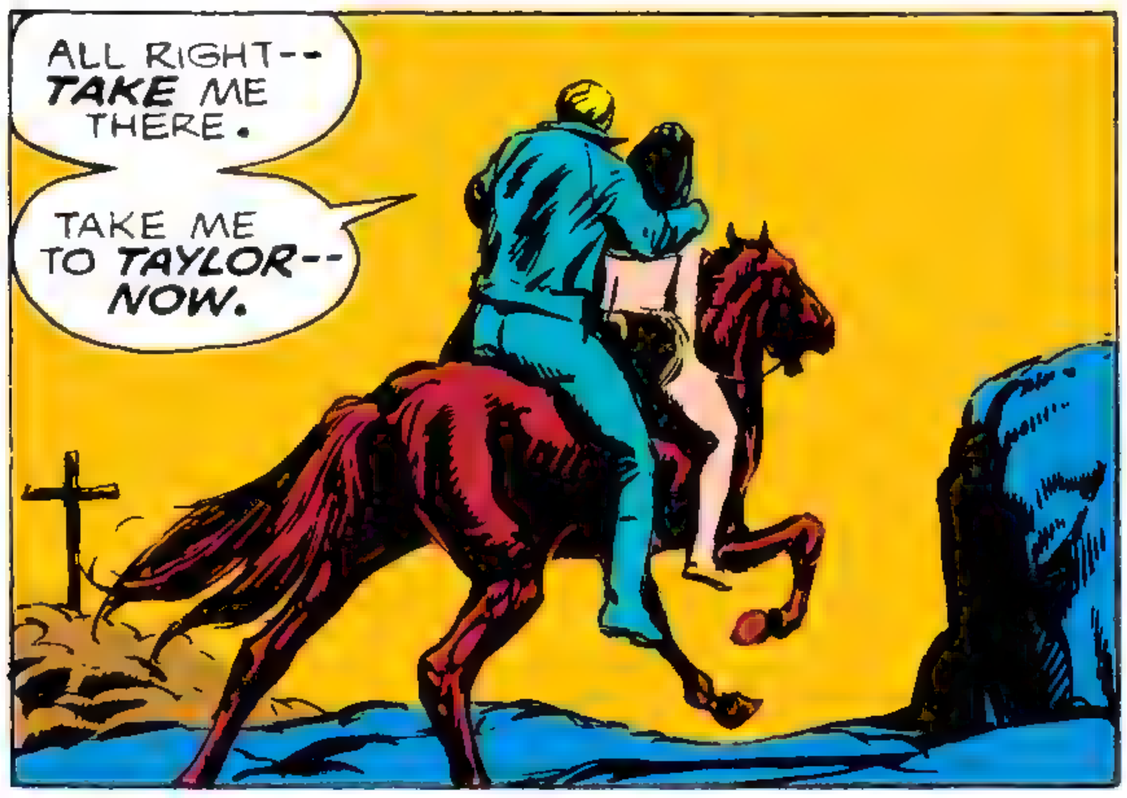
WHAT'S THAT...?
...HANGING AROUND YOUR NECK...?

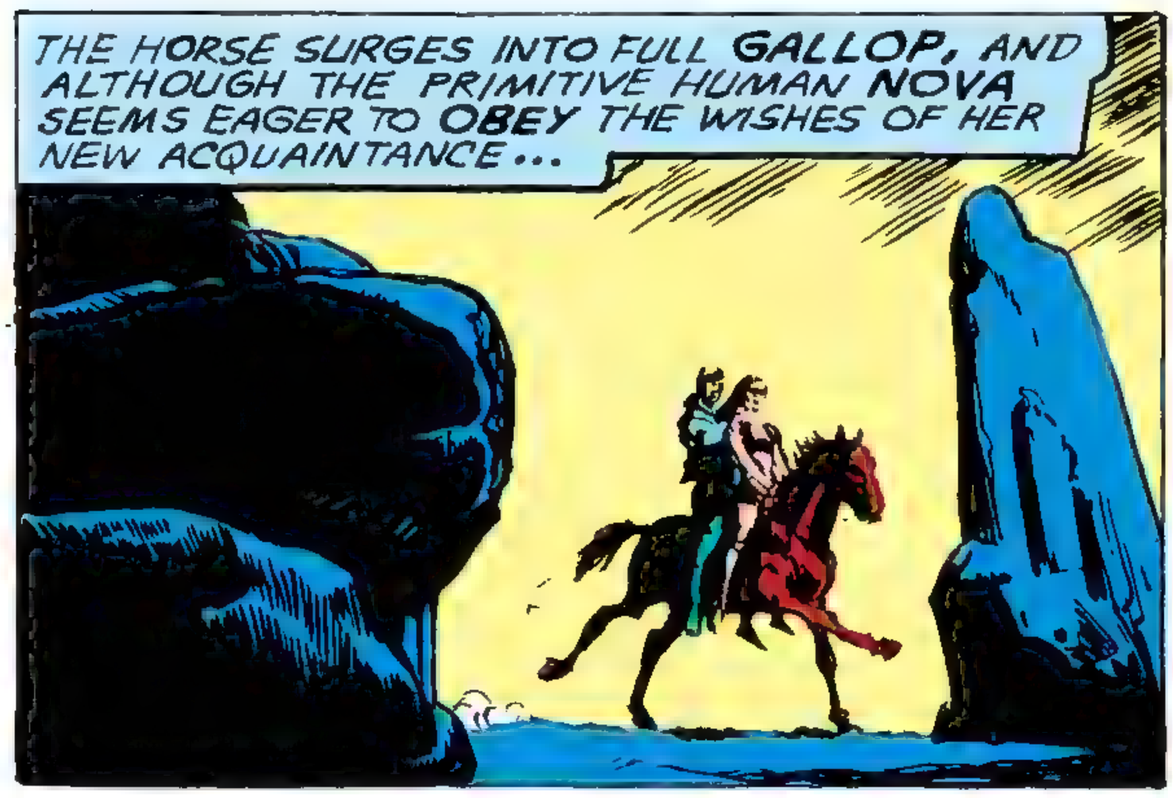
YOU HAVE A NAME...?

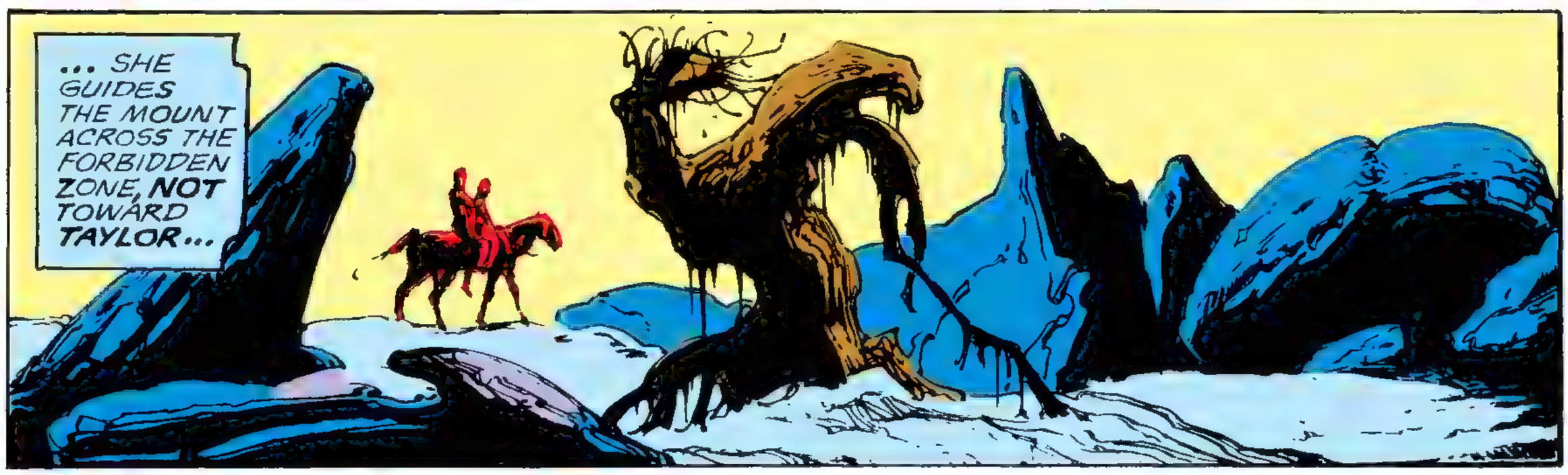

TAYLOR--?!!
TAYLOR'S I.D. TAG--?!
BRENT

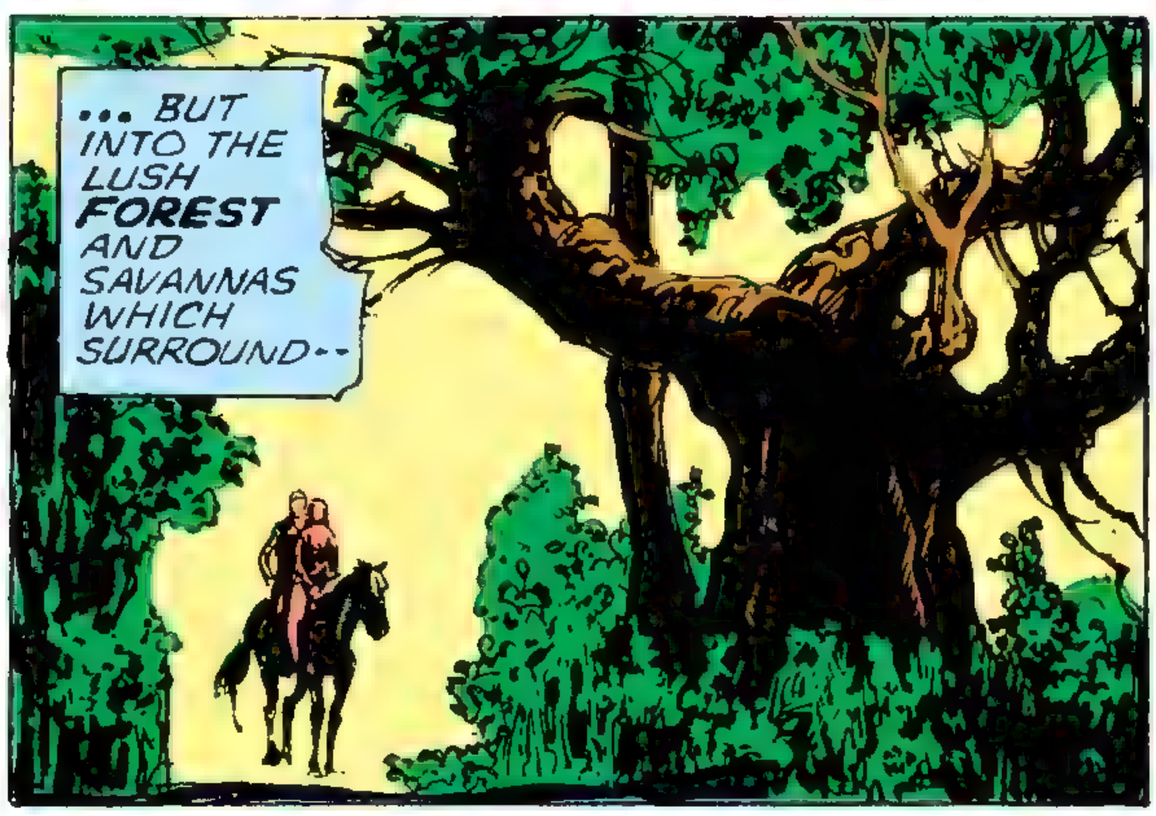
IS HE ALIVE? IS HE HURT--?!

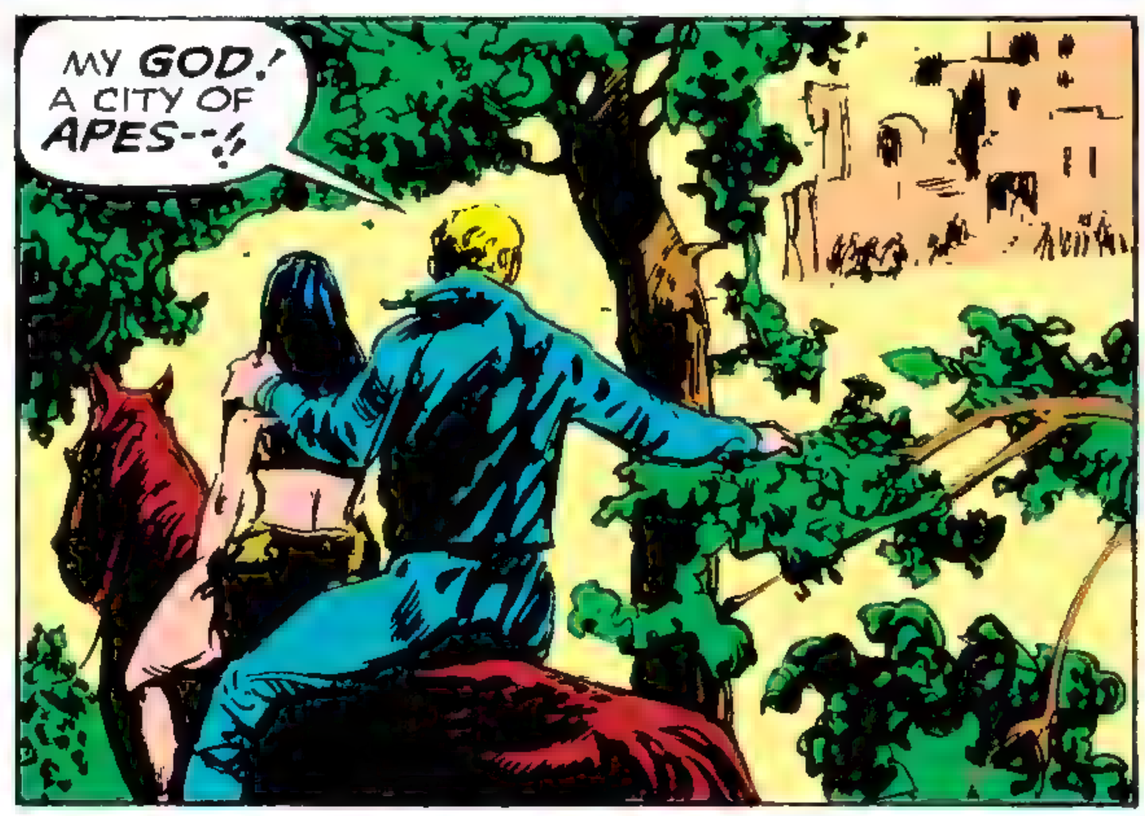



ALL RIGHT-- TAKE ME THERE.
TAKE ME TO TAYLOR-- NOW.


THE HORSE SURGES INTO FULL GALLOP, AND ALTHOUGH THE PRIMITIVE HUMAN NOVA SEEMS EAGER TO OBEY THE WISHES OF HER NEW ACQUAINTANCE...

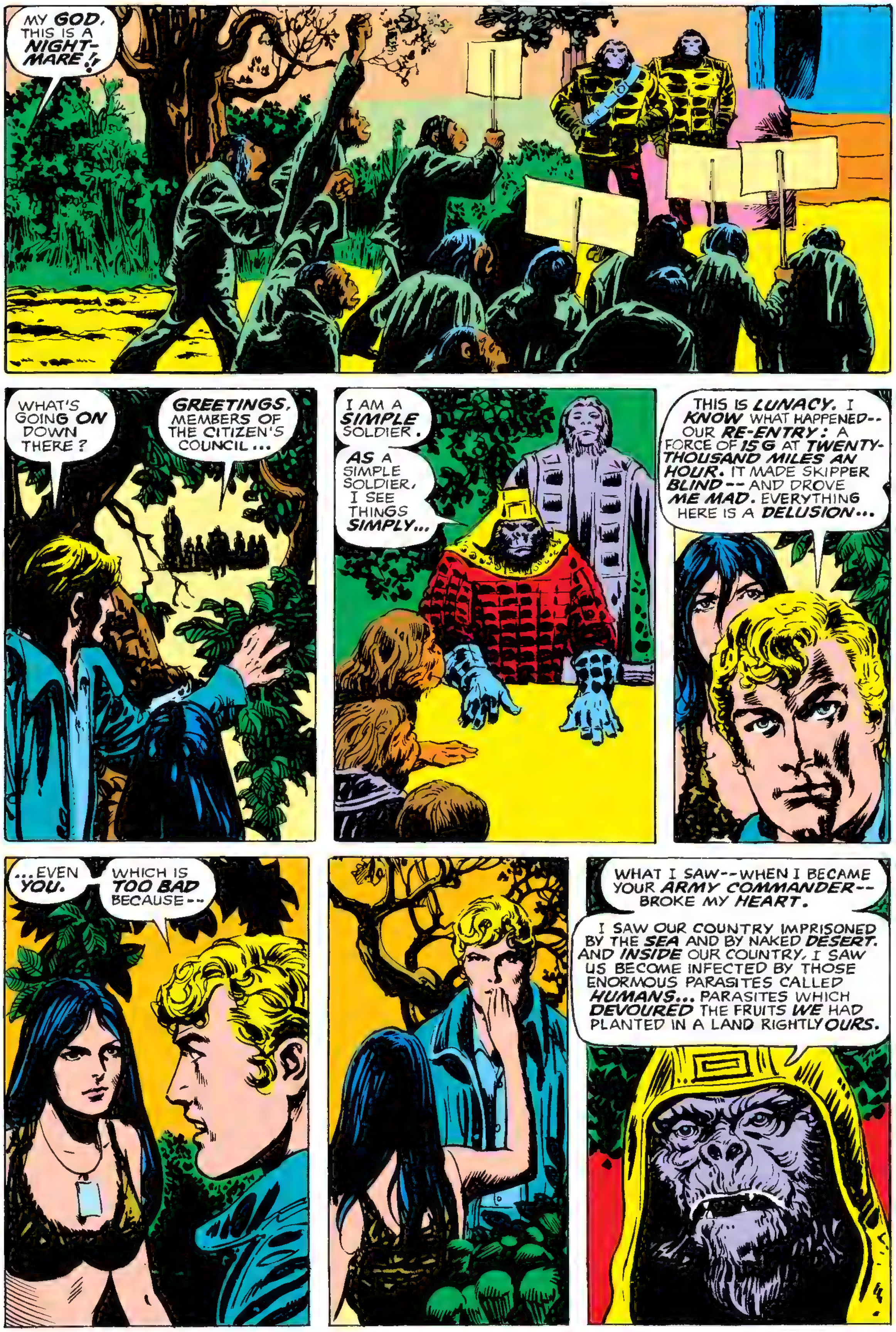

... SHE GUIDES THE MOUNT ACROSS THE FORBIDDEN ZONE, NOT TOWARD TAYLOR...


... BUT INTO THE LUSH FOREST AND SAVANNAS WHICH SURROUND--

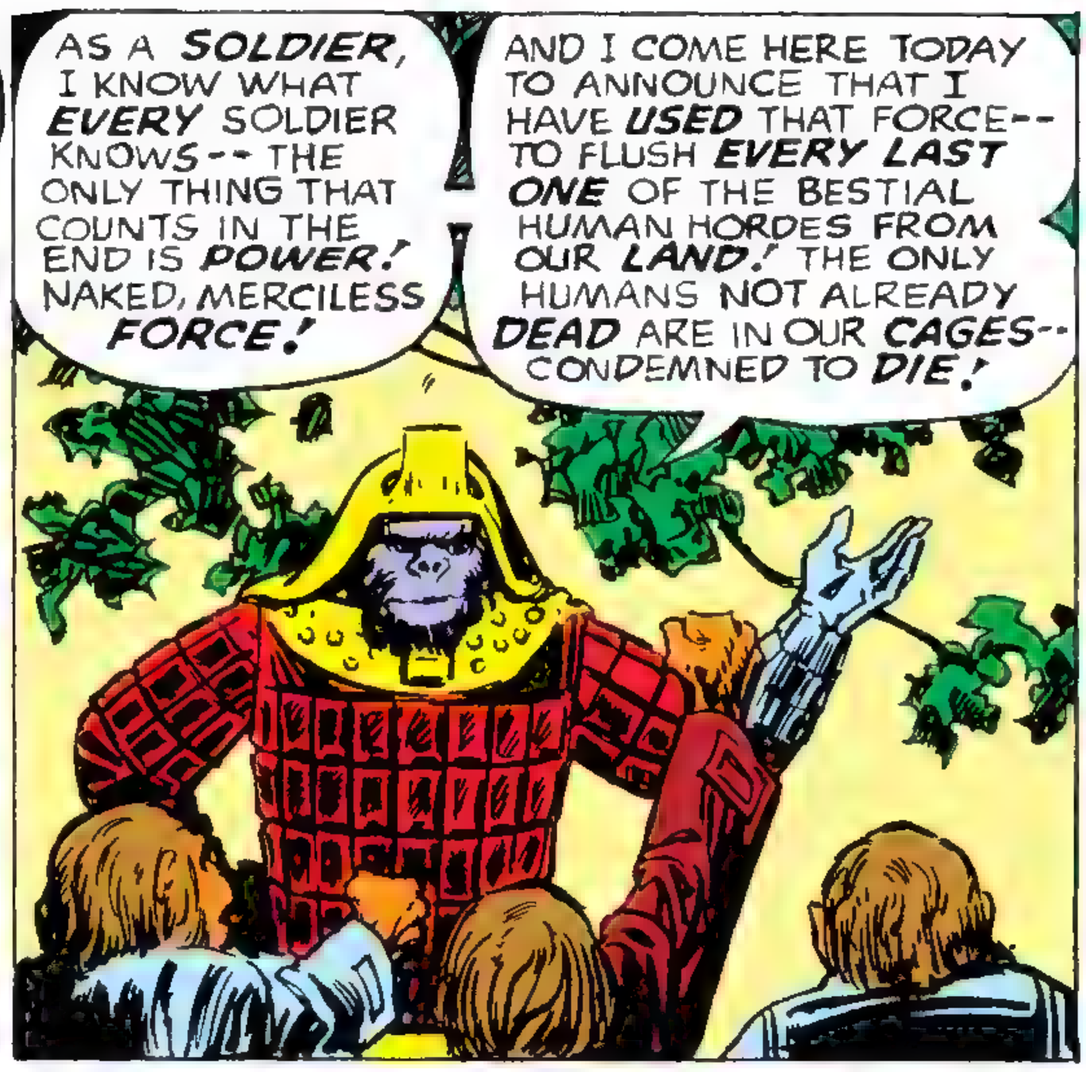

MY GOD! A CITY OF APES--!!

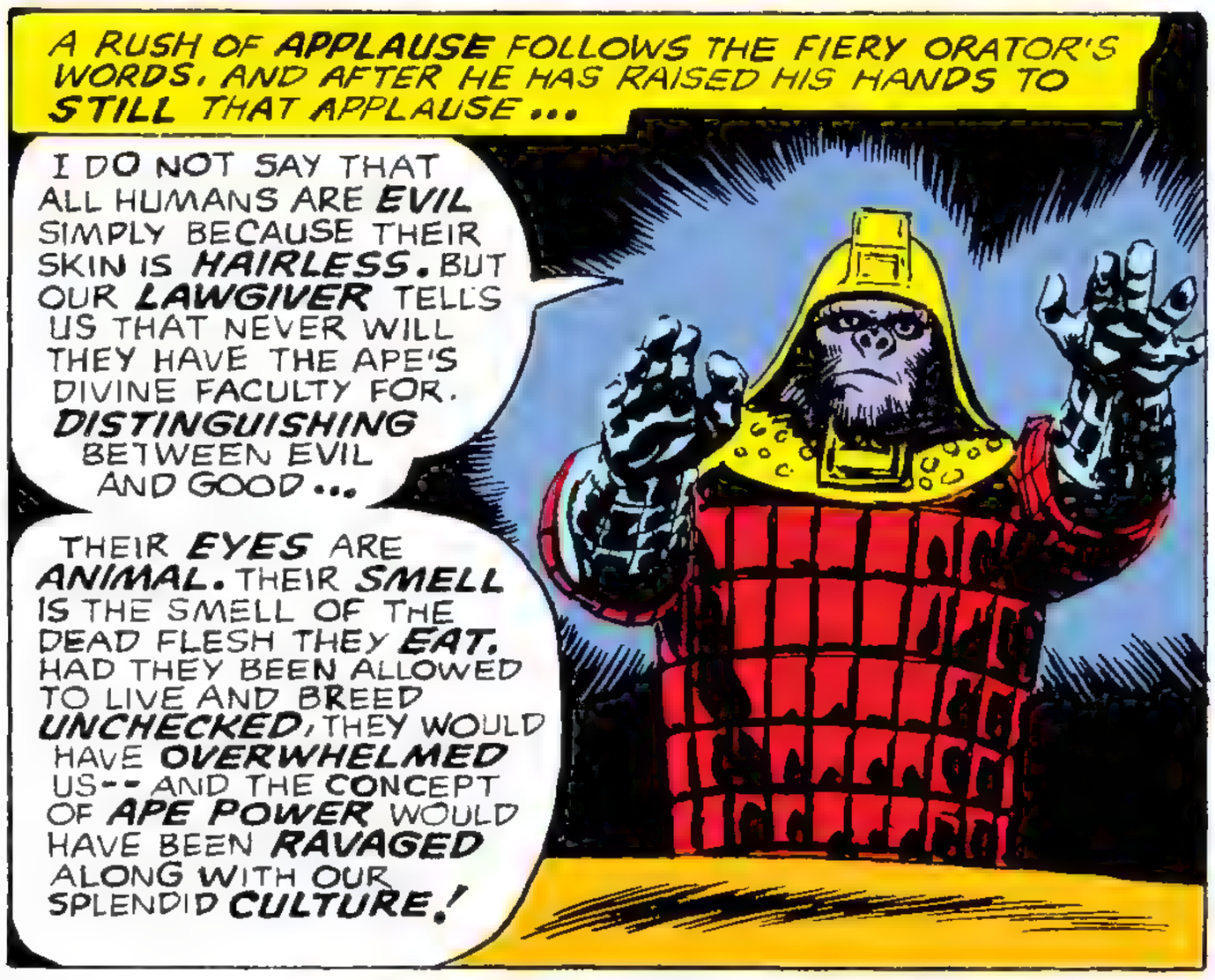
GET IN THERE-- IN THE CAGE YOU STUPID ANIMALS!

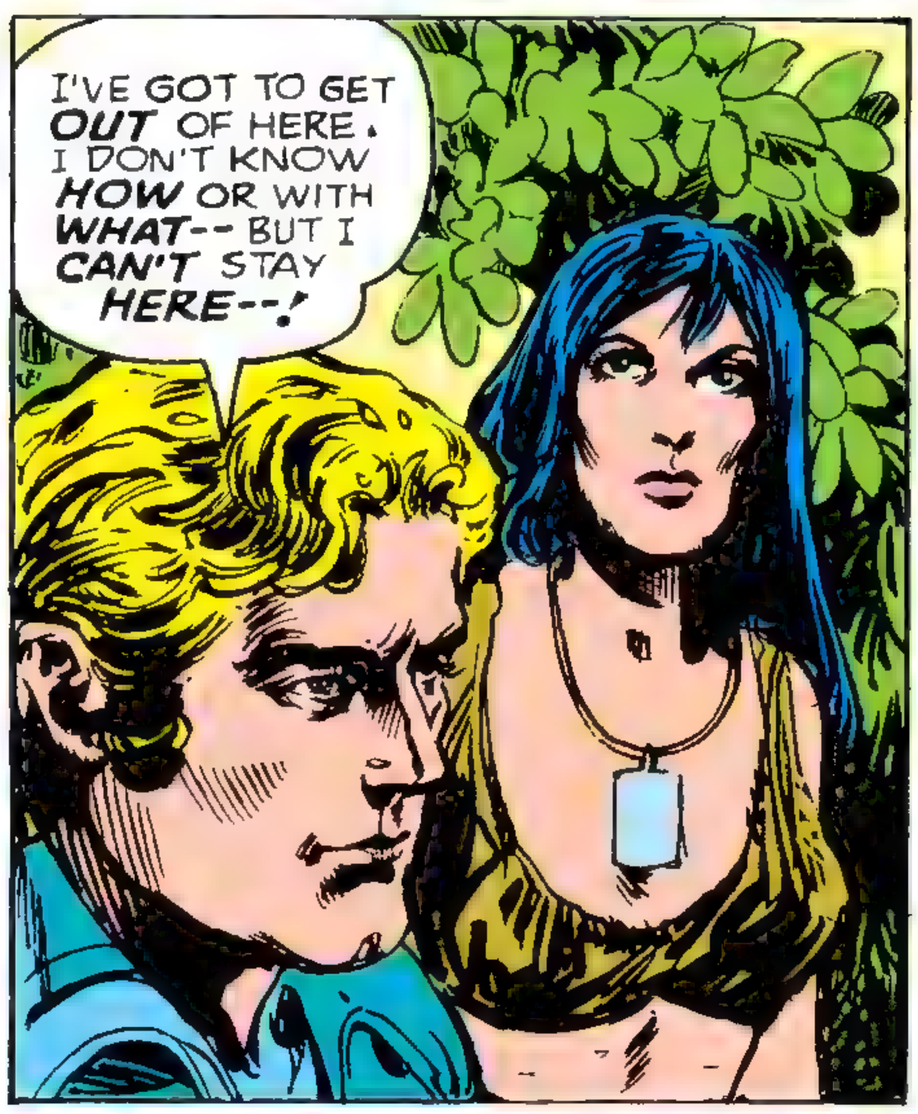
THAT GORILLA SPOKE--!
WHAT ARE THEY DOING TO THOSE PEOPLE DOWN THERE--?!
THIS ISN'T REAL-- IT CAN'T BE...


MY GOD, THIS IS A NIGHT-MARE!!
WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE?
GREETINGS, MEMBERS OF THE CITIZEN'S COUNCIL...
I AM A SIMPLE SOLDIER.
AS A SIMPLE SOLDIER, I SEE THINGS SIMPLY...
THIS IS LUNACY. I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED-- OUR RE-ENTRY: A FORCE OF 15 G AT TWENTY-THOUSAND MILES AN HOUR. IT MADE SKIPPER BLIND -- AND DROVE ME MAD. EVERYTHING HERE IS A DELUSION...
...EVEN YOU.
WHICH IS TOO BAD BECAUSE--
WHAT I SAW--WHEN I BECAME YOUR ARMY COMMANDER-- BROKE MY HEART.
I SAW OUR COUNTRY IMPRISONED BY THE SEA AND BY NAKED DESERT. AND INSIDE OUR COUNTRY, I SAW US BECOME INFECTED BY THOSE ENORMOUS PARASITES CALLED HUMANS... PARASITES WHICH DEVOURED THE FRUITS WE HAD PLANTED IN A LAND RIGHTLY OURS.

...PARASITES WHICH FLATTENED OUR ONCE FERTILE FIELDS, AND POLLUTED OUR PRECIOUS LAKES AND RIVERS WITH THEIR FOUL EXCREMENT--WHICH CONTINUED TO BREED IN OUR VERY MIDST LIKE MAGGOTS IN A ONCE HEALTHY BODY.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT SUCH PARASITES? HOW SHOULD WE ACT--?!


AS A SOLDIER, I KNOW WHAT EVERY SOLDIER KNOWS-- THE ONLY THING THAT COUNTS IN THE END IS POWER! NAKED, MERCILESS FORCE!
AND I COME HERE TODAY TO ANNOUNCE THAT I HAVE USED THAT FORCE-- TO FLUSH EVERY LAST ONE OF THE BESTIAL HUMAN HORDES FROM OUR LAND! THE ONLY HUMANS NOT ALREADY DEAD ARE IN OUR CAGES-- CONDEMNED TO DIE!


A RUSH OF APPLAUSE FOLLOWS THE FIERY ORATOR'S WORDS, AND AFTER HE HAS RAISED HIS HANDS TO STILL THAT APPLAUSE...
I DO NOT SAY THAT ALL HUMANS ARE EVIL SIMPLY BECAUSE THEIR SKIN IS HAIRLESS. BUT OUR LAWGIVER TELLS US THAT NEVER WILL THEY HAVE THE APE'S DIVINE FACULTY FOR DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN EVIL AND GOOD...
THEIR EYES ARE ANIMAL. THEIR SMELL IS THE SMELL OF THE DEAD FLESH THEY EAT. HAD THEY BEEN ALLOWED TO LIVE AND BREED UNCHECKED, THEY WOULD HAVE OVERWHELMED US-- AND THE CONCEPT OF APE POWER WOULD HAVE BEEN RAVAGED ALONG WITH OUR SPLENDID CULTURE!

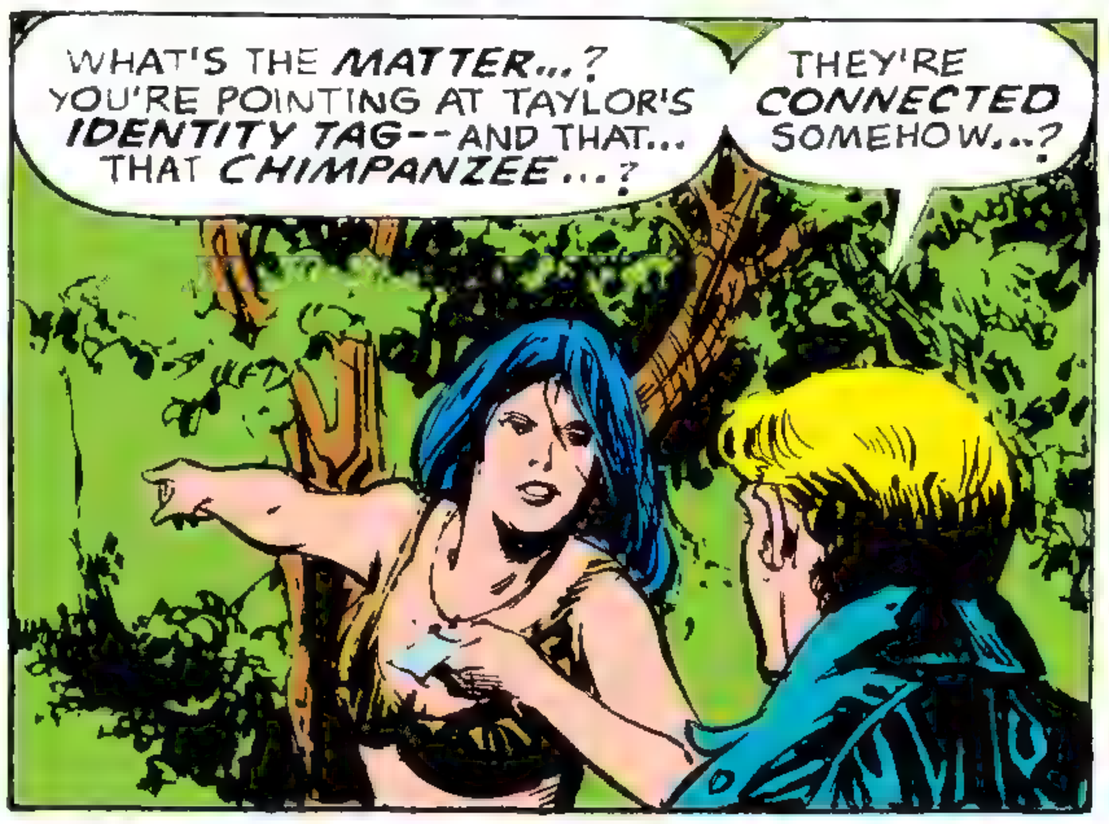

I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE. I DON'T KNOW HOW OR WITH WHAT-- BUT I CAN'T STAY HERE--!

--BECAUSE THE ONLY GOOD HUMAN IS A DEAD HUMAN!!
THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE EXPLODES FROM THE CONGREGATED APE AUDIENCE...

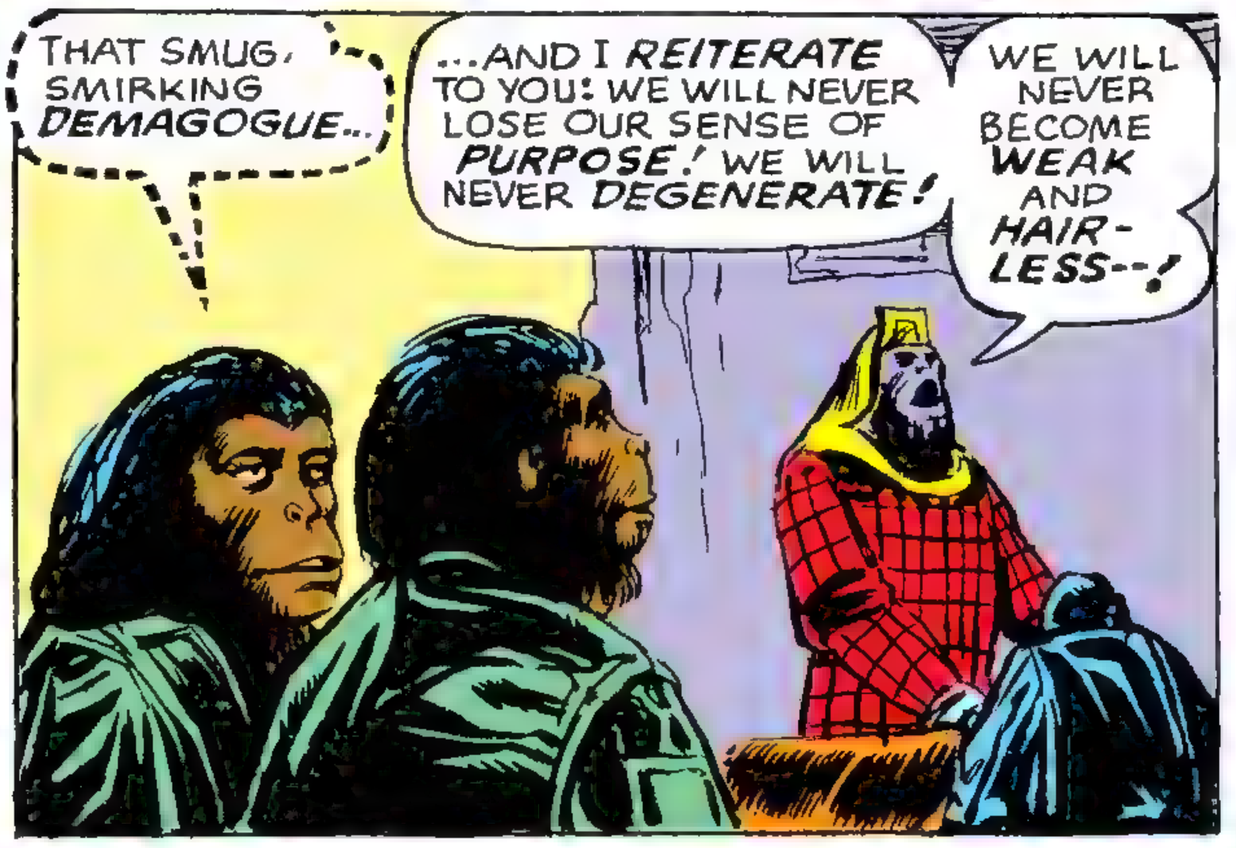
...AND WHEN IT FINALLY DIES...
AND THOSE HUMANS LUCKY ENOUGH TO REMAIN ALIVE WILL HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF BEING... USED...
...BY OUR REVERED MINISTER OF SCIENCE DR. ZAIUS...
THE CREATOR BLESS DR. ZAIUS--!

ZAIUS-- OUR ONLY HOPE FOR SANITY IN THE MIDST OF MILITARY MADNESS...

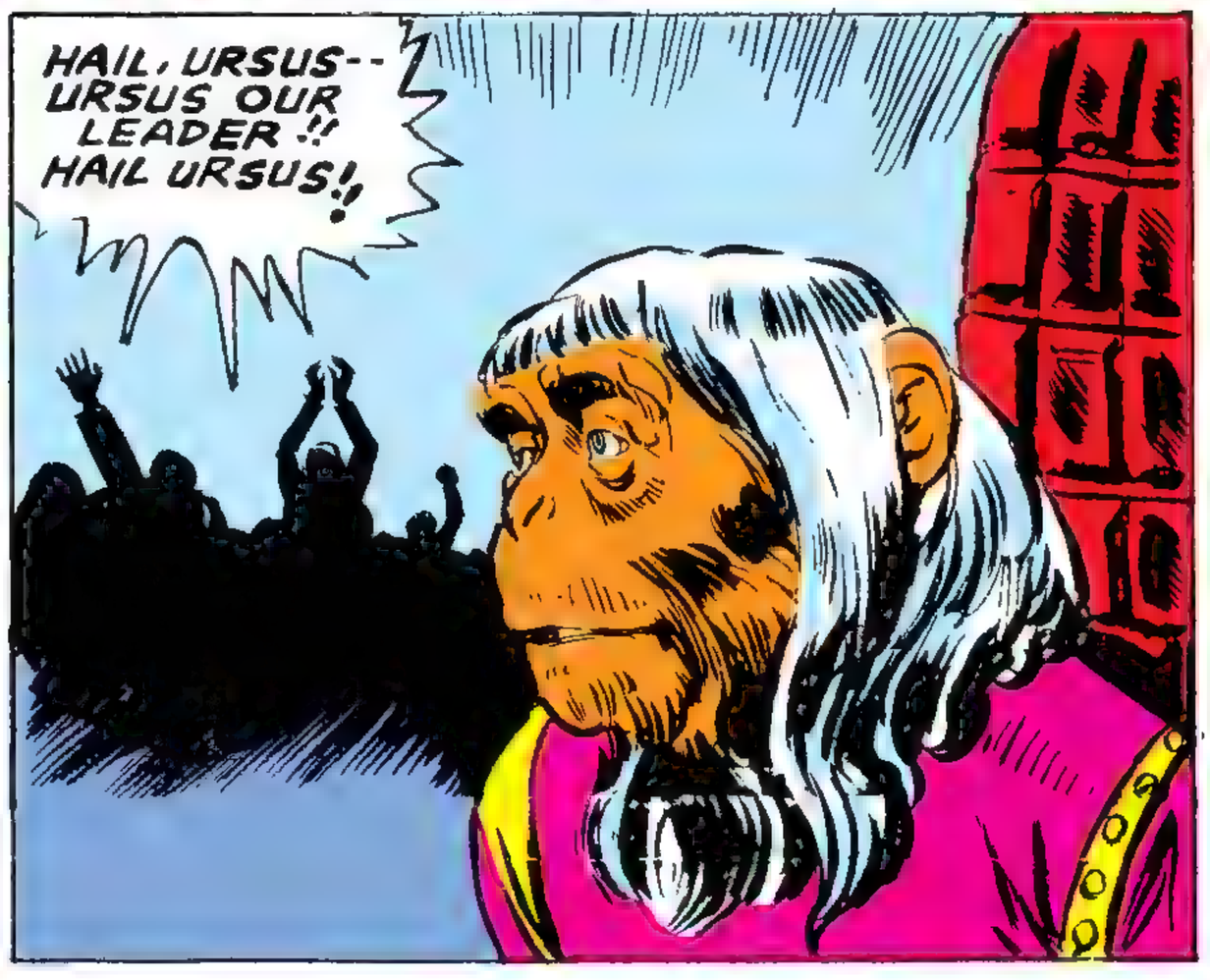
ZIRA-- STOP IT! URSUS' POLICE ARE MOVING IN-- YOU'RE IN DANGER--!
SO IS THE FUTURE OF SCIENCE, CORNELIUS-- IF THAT RABBLE-ROUSER CONTINUES TO FOMENT A SENSELESS MILITARY ADVENTURE.


WHAT'S THE MATTER...? YOU'RE POINTING AT TAYLOR'S IDENTITY TAG--AND THAT... THAT CHIMPANZEE...?
THEY'RE CONNECTED SOMEHOW...?

I MUST APOLOGIZE FOR THAT UNSEEMLY OUTBURST FROM A DEFIANT MINORITY IN THE CONGREGATION. I BELIEVE IT IS NOW UNDER CONTROL...

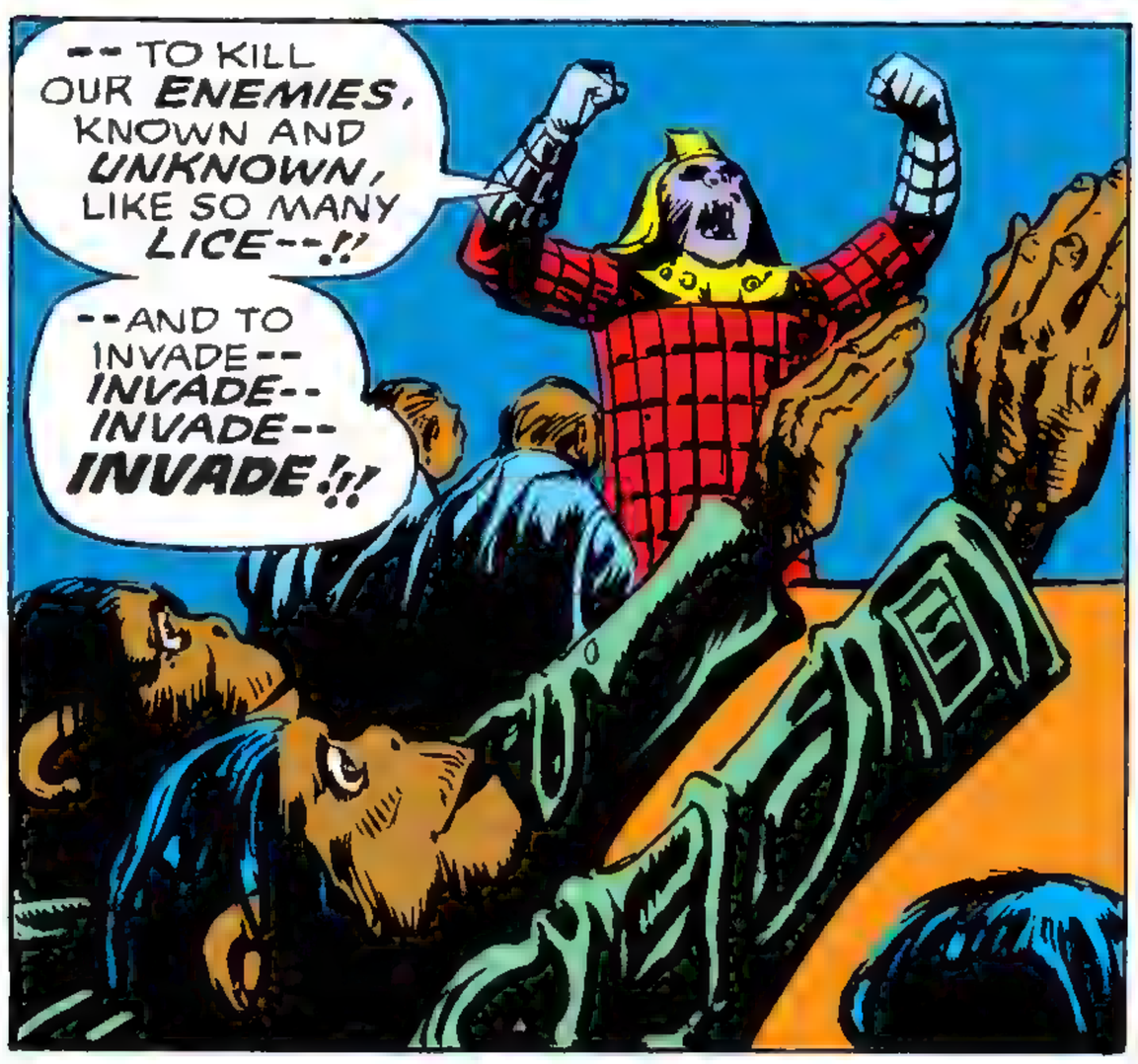

THAT SMUG, SMIRKING DEMAGOGUE...
...AND I REITERATE TO YOU: WE WILL NEVER LOSE OUR SENSE OF PURPOSE! WE WILL NEVER DEGENERATE!
WE WILL NEVER BECOME WEAK AND HAIR-LESS--!

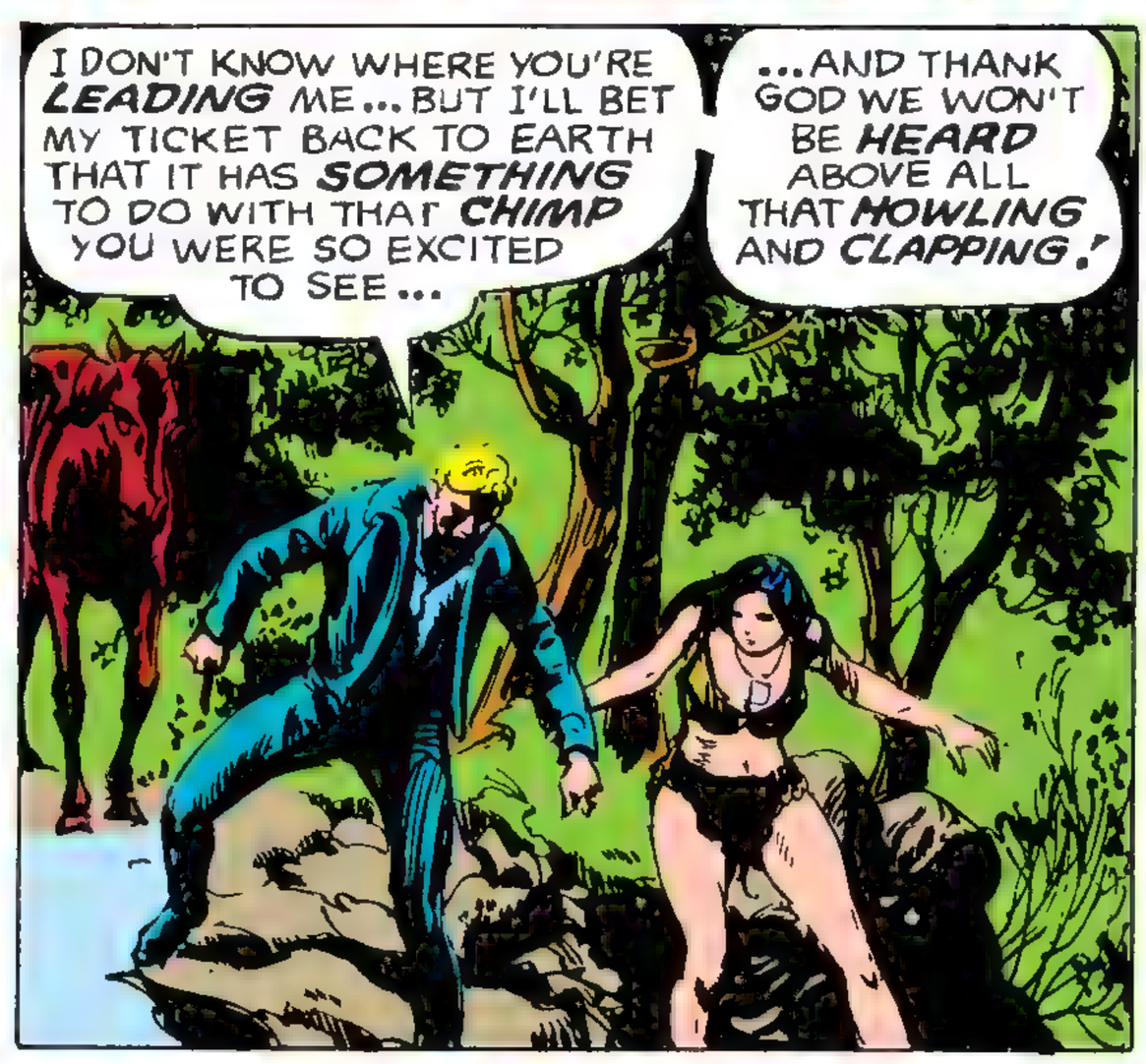
BECAUSE WE KNOW HOW TO PURIFY OUR OWN PEOPLE-- WITH BLOOD!


HAIL, URSUS-- URSUS OUR LEADER!! HAIL URSUS!!

THE FORBIDDEN ZONE HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR CENTURIES--AND RIGHTLY SO! BUT WE NOW HAVE EVIDENCE THAT IT'S VAST, BARREN AREA IS INHABITED, BY WHOM OR BY WHAT, WE DO NOT KNOW...
BUT IF THEY LIVE, THEN THEY MUST EAT. AND WE MUST REPLENISH THE LAND THAT WAS RAVAGED BY THE HUMANS...REPLENISH IT WITH NEW, PRODUCTIVE FEEDING GROUNDS.

AND THESE NEW GROUNDS WE CAN OBTAIN IN THAT ONCE-FORBIDDEN ZONE! SO, NOW IT IS OUR HOLY DUTY TO ENTER IT-- AND PUT THE MARK OF OUR FEET AND WHEELS AND GUNS AND FLAGS UPON IT--!!
--TO EXPAND THE BOUNDARIES OF OUR INVIOLABLE POWER--!


--TO KILL OUR ENEMIES, KNOWN AND UNKNOWN, LIKE SO MANY LICE--!!
--AND TO INVADE-- INVADE-- INVADE-- INVADE!!!

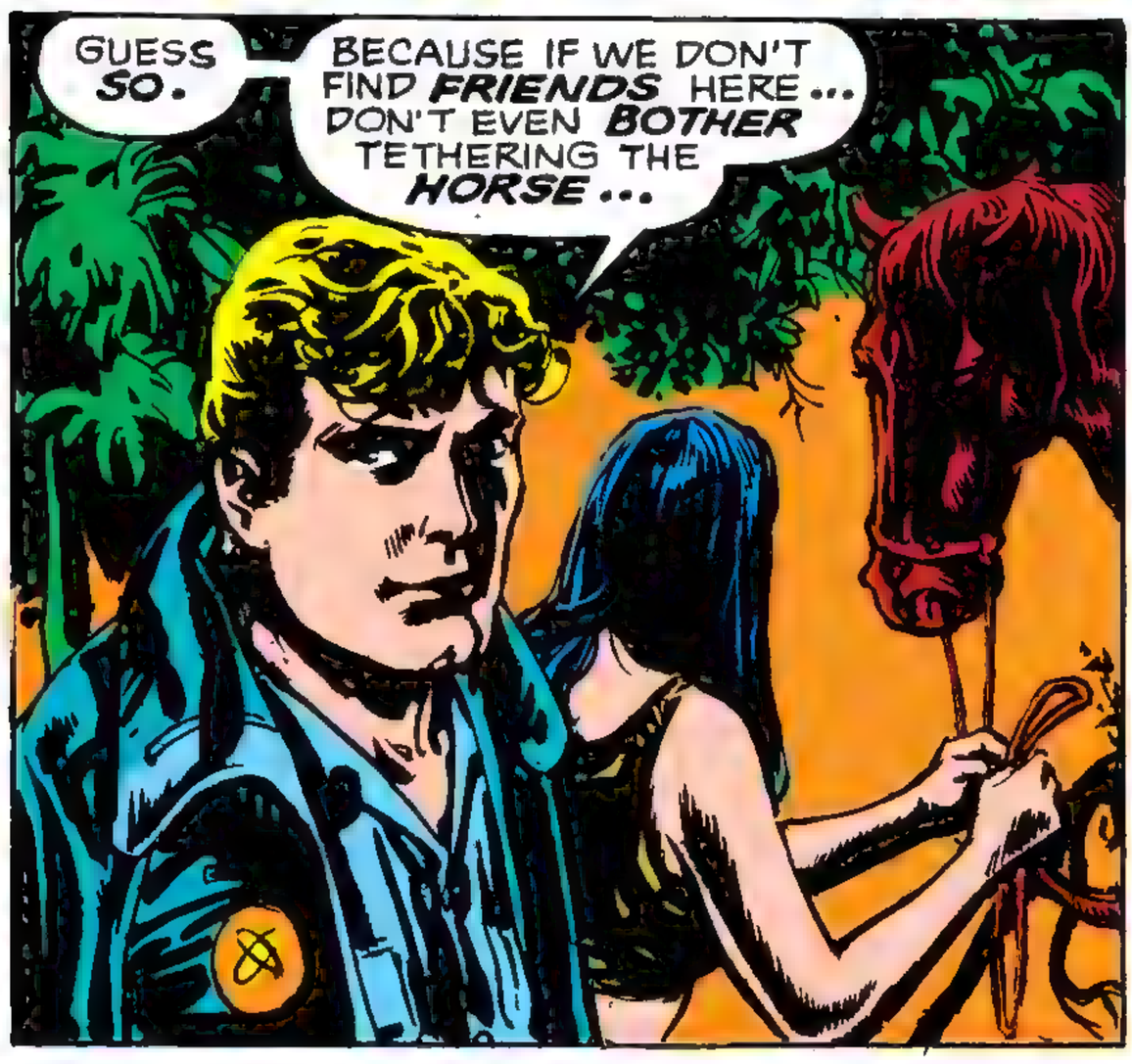

I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU'RE LEADING ME...BUT I'LL BET MY TICKET BACK TO EARTH THAT IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THAT CHIMP YOU WERE SO EXCITED TO SEE...
...AND THANK GOD WE WON'T BE HEARD ABOVE ALL THAT HOWLING AND CLAPPING!

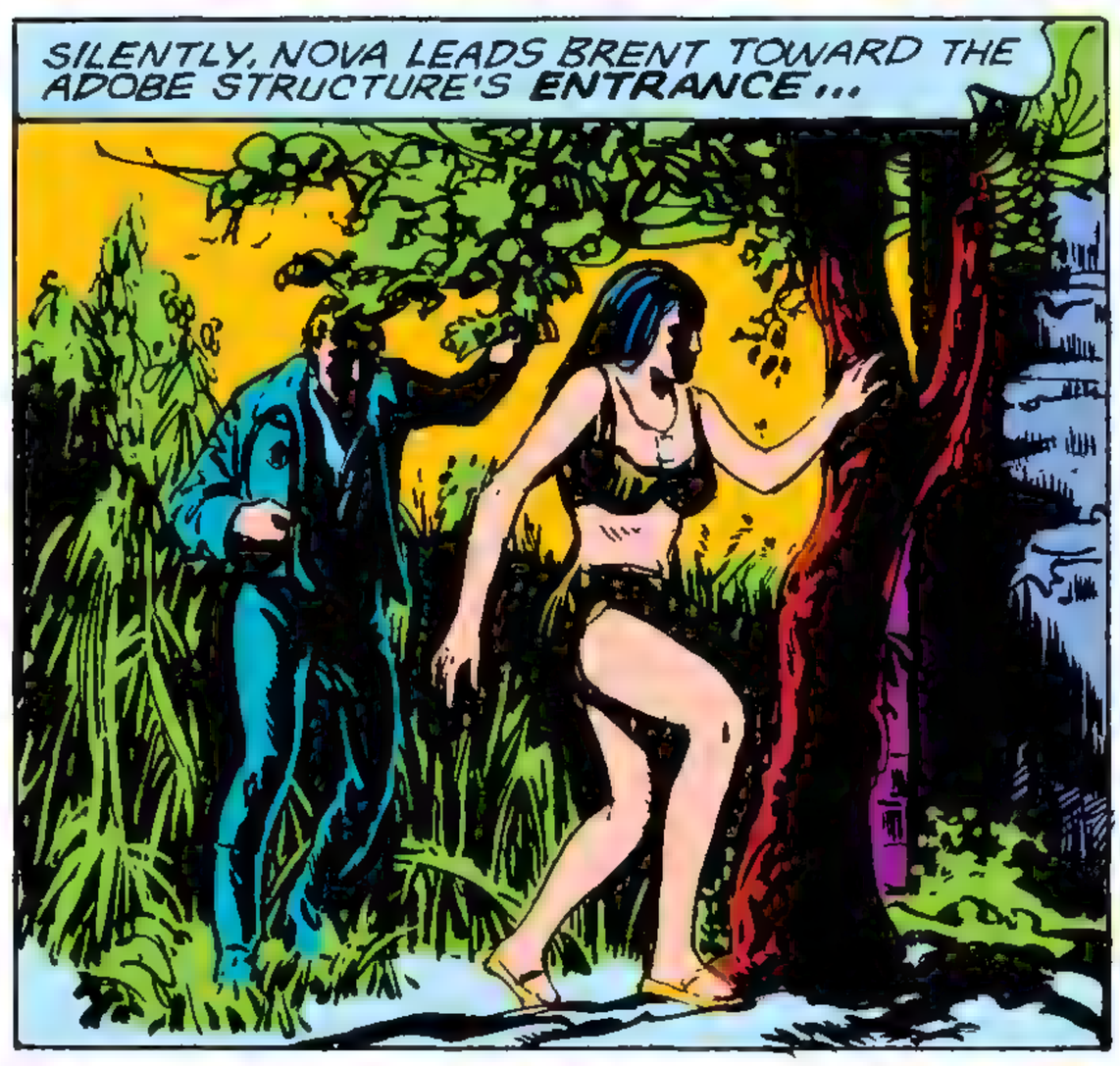
BUT THERE IS ONE WHO DOES NOT JOIN THE WILDLY HOWLING AND CLAPPING THRONGS...
HAIL, URSUS! URSUS OUR LEADER!
ZIRA--!
ZIRA, AS YOUR HUSBAND, I BEG YOU TO STAND UP--!

ONLY FOR MY PRINCIPLES, CORNELIUS.
ALL RIGHT. FOR YOUR PRINCIPLES, THEN-- AND MINE. ONLY STAND-- BEFORE YOU GET YOUR HEAD CRACKED OPEN!

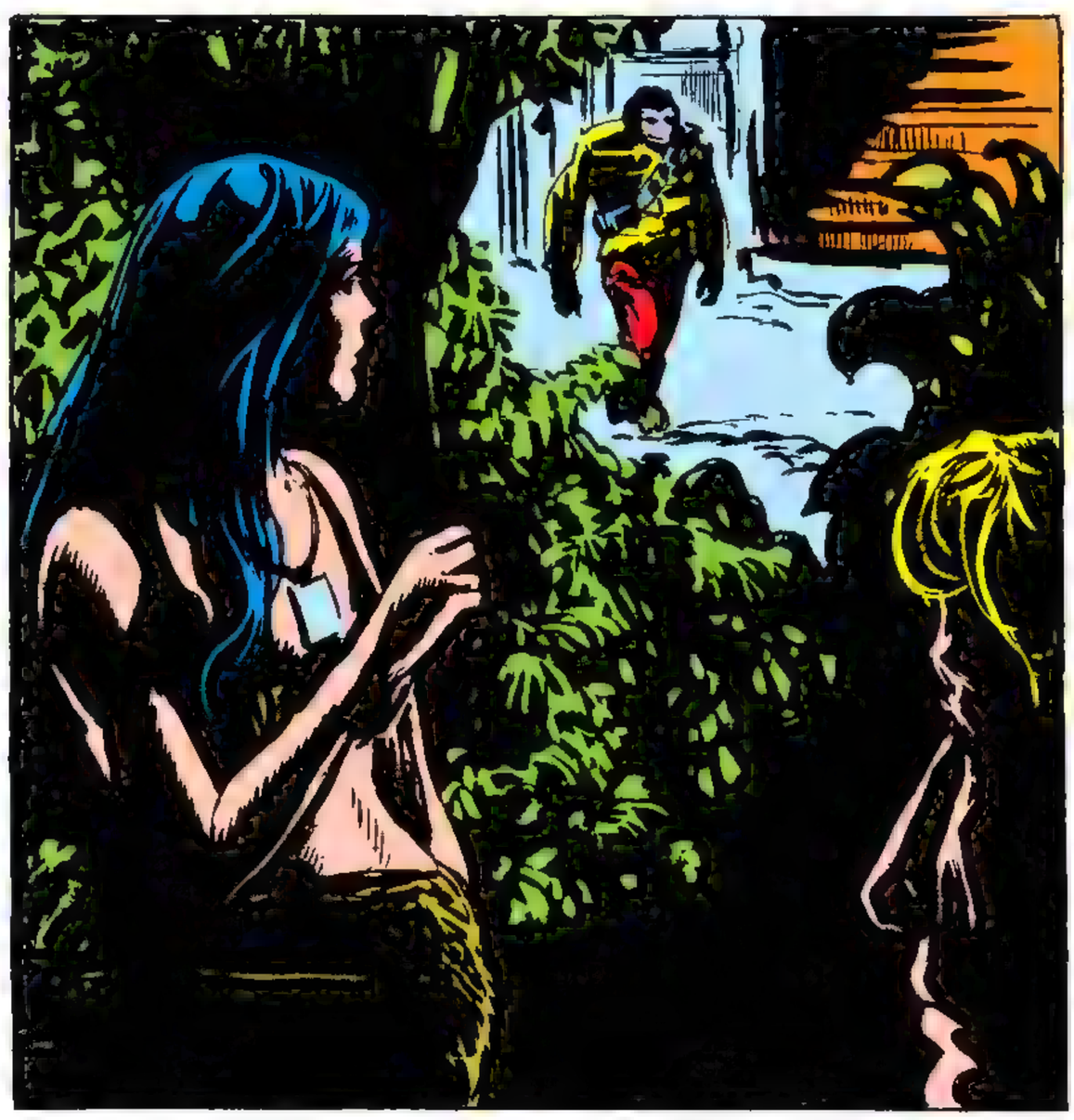
ZIRA ... YOU'LL GIVE ME GRAY HAIR BEFORE MY TIME ...
GRAY HAIRS OR NOT, ONE OF THESE DAYS I WON'T BE COERCED INTO COMPROMISING MY PRINCIPLES.

WHAT? IS THAT THE HOUSE WHERE THE CHIMP LIVES ...?


GUESS SO.
BECAUSE IF WE DON'T FIND FRIENDS HERE ... DON'T EVEN BOTHER TETHERING THE HORSE ...


SILENTLY, NOVA LEADS BRENT TOWARD THE ADOBE STRUCTURE'S ENTRANCE ...

... AND THEN FREEZES, AS THOUGH HEARING SOMETHING ...
WHAT'S WRONG?



NEXT ISSUE: ENSLAVED!

ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES
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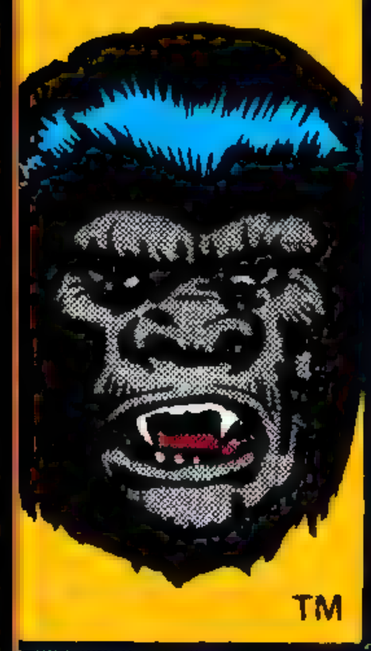
ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES™



BRENT AND NOVA-- ENSLAVED!

STAN LEE PRESENTS PLANET OF THE APES!™

ENSLAVED!

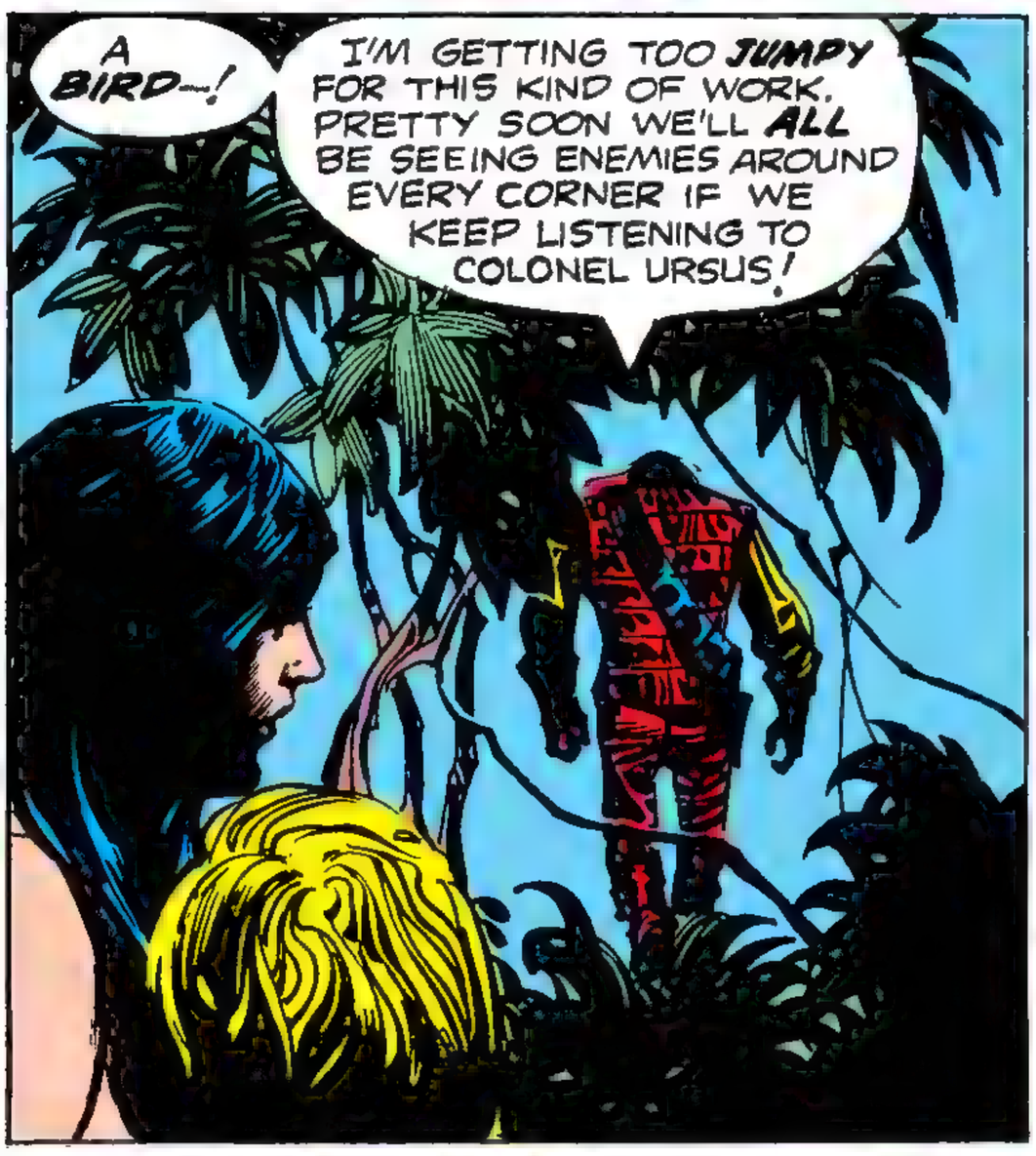
STILL UNABLE TO ACCEPT THE REALITY OF A WORLD IN WHICH **BEASTS** RULE OVER **MAN**, THE ASTRONAUT **BRENT** HAS PLACED HIMSELF UNDER THE DUBIOUS LEADERSHIP OF A **PRIMITIVE FEMALE**...

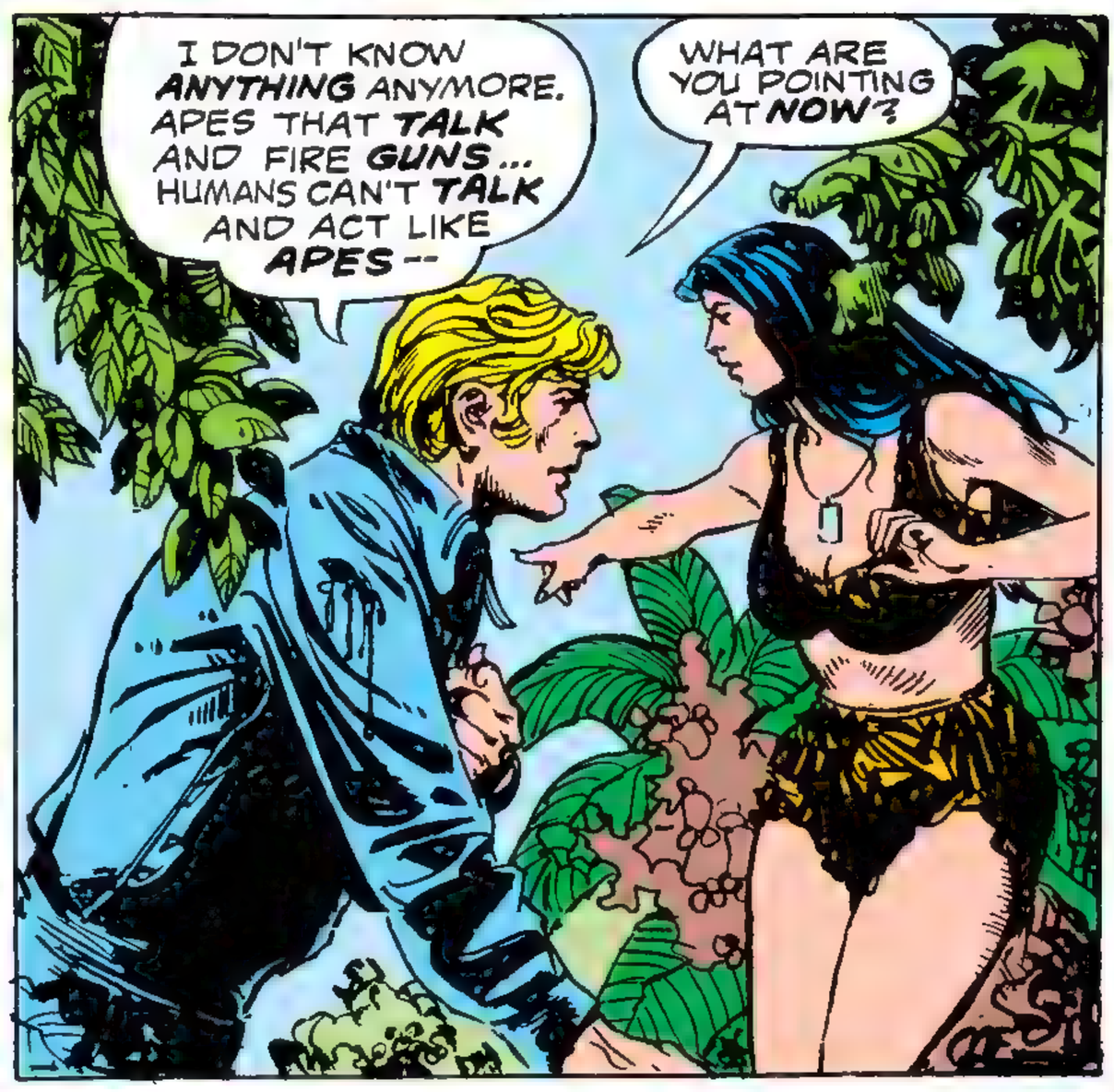
FOR SOME REASON, SHE HAS LED HIM TO THIS **ADOBE-MOUND VILLAGE** ...AND NOW, ALTHOUGH **SHE** IS **INCAPABLE** OF SPEECH, SHE PROVES FULLY AWARE OF BRENT'S CAPABILITIES--

--BY **URGENTLY**, ATTEMPTING TO **STIFLE** HIS VOICE... FOR SHE HAS **LEARNED** THAT ON A PLANET OF **APES**--

WRITER: DOUG MOENCH
ARTIST: ALFREDO ALCALA
COLORIST: GEORGE ROUSSOS

BLAMM!


A BIRD--!
I'M GETTING TOO JUMPY FOR THIS KIND OF WORK. PRETTY SOON WE'LL ALL BE SEEING ENEMIES AROUND EVERY CORNER IF WE KEEP LISTENING TO COLONEL URSUS!

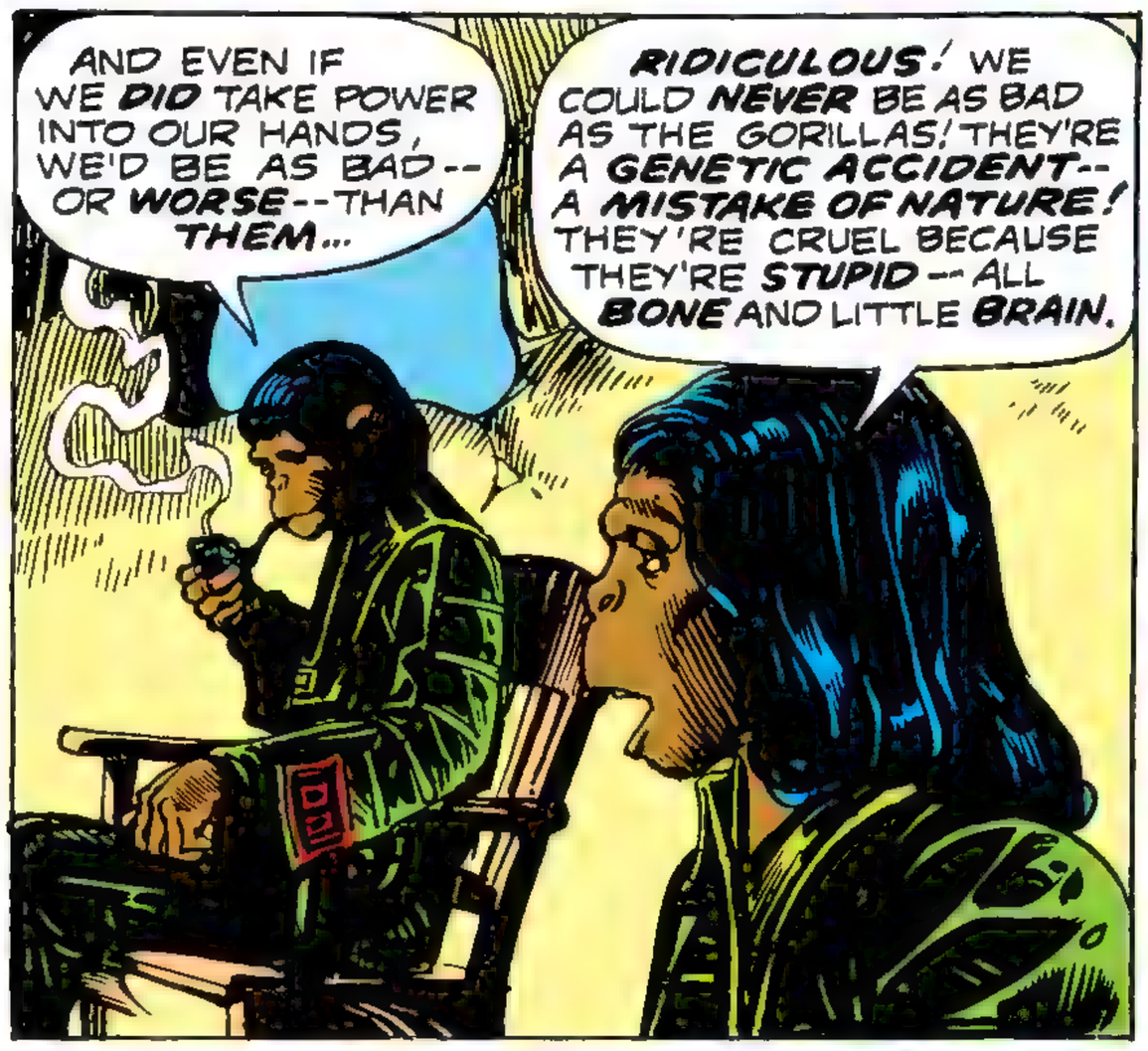

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ANYMORE. APES THAT TALK AND FIRE GUNS... HUMANS CAN'T TALK AND ACT LIKE APES--
WHAT ARE YOU POINTING AT NOW?

THAT ADOBE DWELLING.
I SUPPOSE YOU KNOW THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE? OR... GOD HELP ME--

"--THE APES WHO LIVE THERE."
IF I HAD ANY PROPER SENSE OF SCIENTIFIC PURPOSE, CORNELIUS, I SHOULDN'T BE CUTTING UP THE HEALTHY HEADS OF HUMANS-- I SHOULD BE DISSECTING THE DISEASED BRAINS OF GORILLAS TO FIND OUT WHAT WENT WRONG.
AND HOW WOULD YOU PUT IT RIGHT, DEAR ZIRA?

WET-NURSE THEIR BABIES ON THE MILK OF CHIMPANZEES-- THE MILK OF KINDNESS.
AT LEAST WHEN OUR BABY IS BORN, IT WON'T BE BREAST-FED ON BILE.

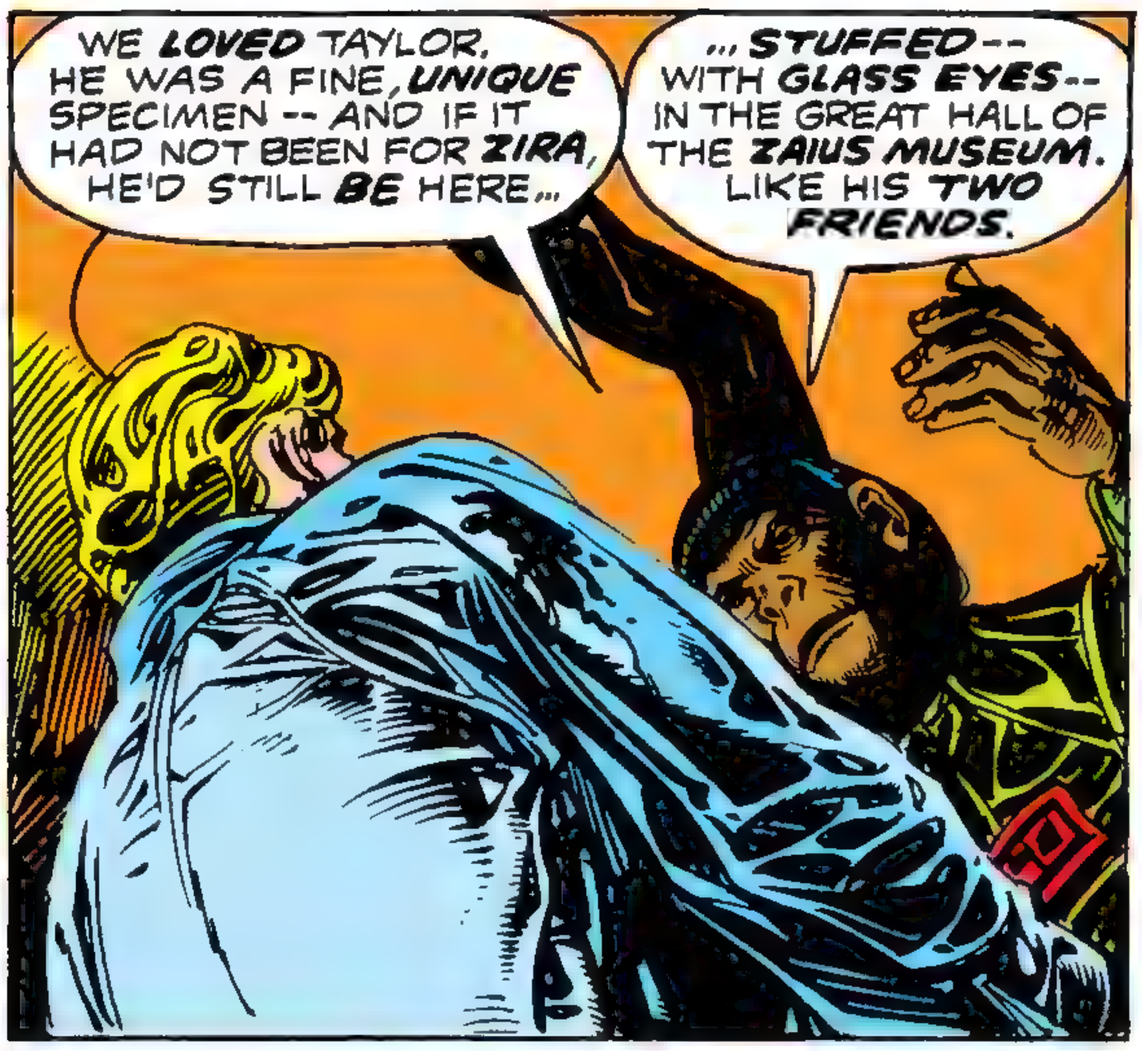
THE TROUBLE WITH US NEWLY-WED INTELLECTUALS, MY DEAR, IS THAT WE HAVE RESPONSIBILITY--
--BUT NO POWER.

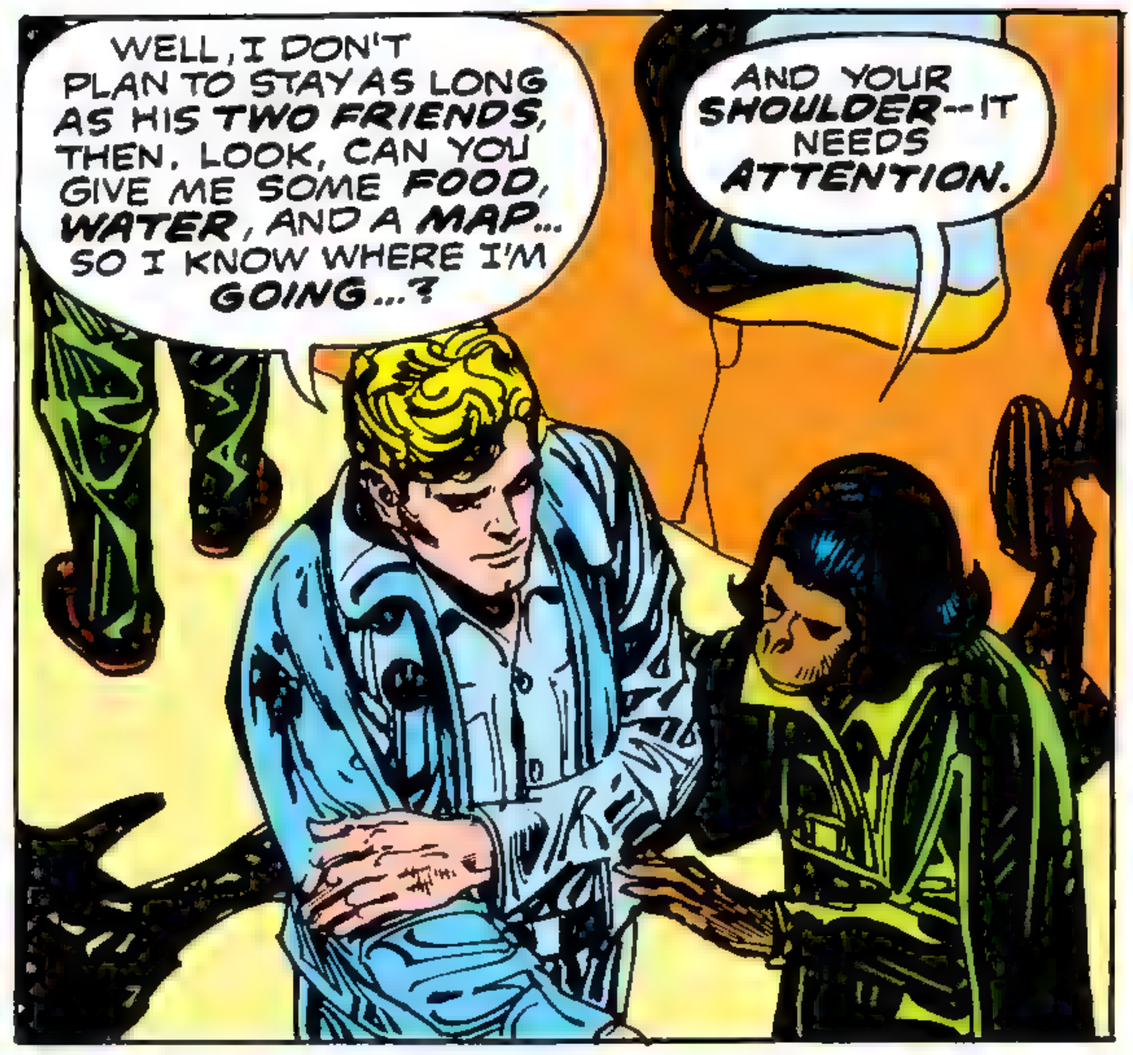

AND EVEN IF WE DID TAKE POWER INTO OUR HANDS, WE'D BE AS BAD-- OR WORSE--THAN THEM...
RIDICULOUS! WE COULD NEVER BE AS BAD AS THE GORILLAS! THEY'RE A GENETIC ACCIDENT-- A MISTAKE OF NATURE! THEY'RE CRUEL BECAUSE THEY'RE STUPID -- ALL BONE AND LITTLE BRAIN.

SH-H-H! ZIRA--DON'T TALK LIKE THAT!
YOU NEVER KNOW WHO COULD BE LISTENING--
NOVA-- AND TAYLOR!
MY NAME'S NOT TAYLOR!

IT'S BRENT.
YOU TALKED--!
IMPOSSIBLE.

IN AN ENTIRE LIFETIME DEVOTED TO THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF HUMANS, I'VE FOUND ONLY ONE OTHER LIKE YOU WHO COULD SPEAK.
TAYLOR-- AN ASTRONAUT LIKE MYSELF.
HAVE YOU SEEN HIM? IS HE ALIVE--?!
I DON'T KNOW. I'M TRYING TO FIND HIM--AND THE LONGER I'M HERE, THE LESS I'M BEGINNING TO CARE.

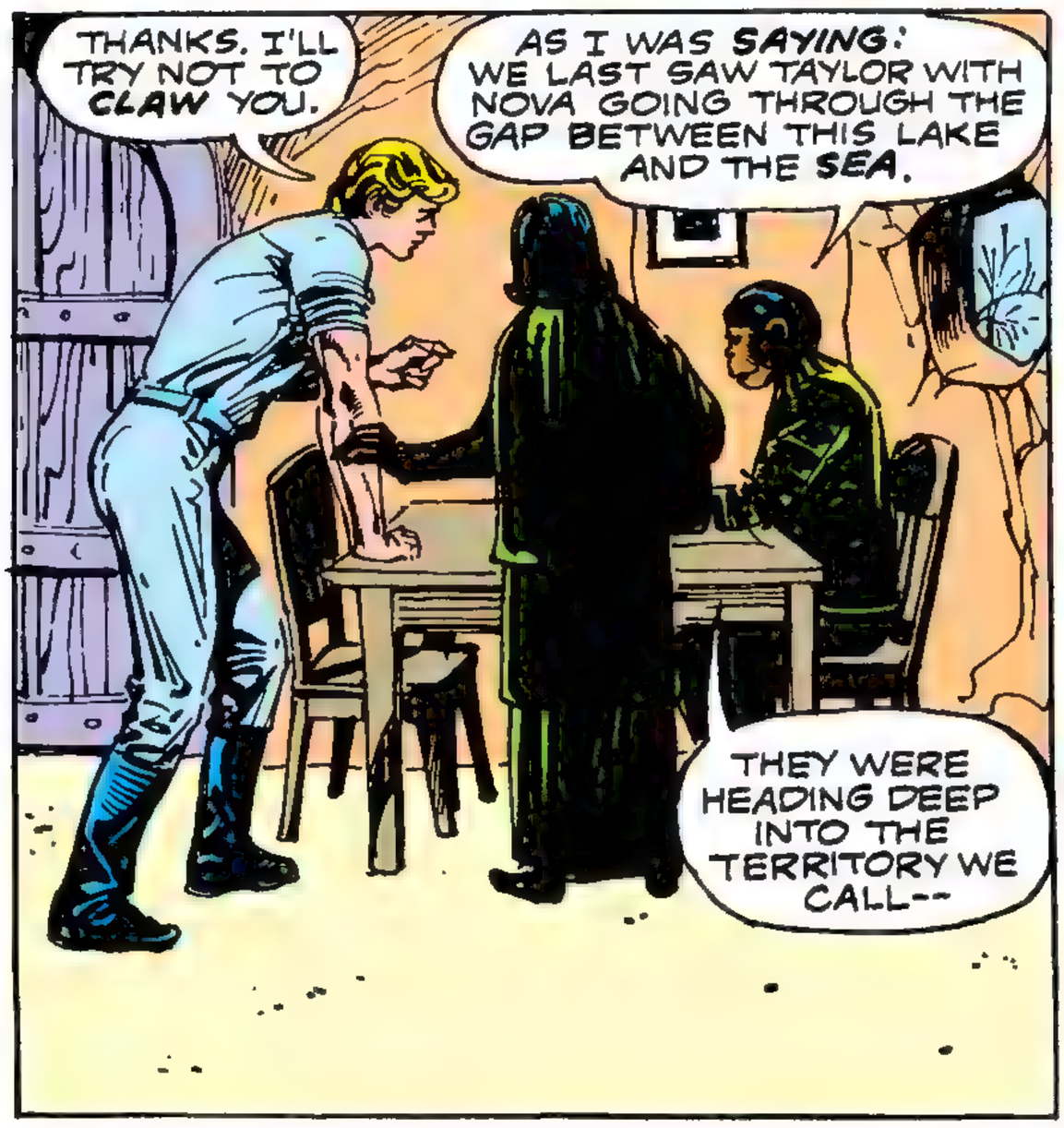

WE LOVED TAYLOR. HE WAS A FINE, UNIQUE SPECIMEN -- AND IF IT HAD NOT BEEN FOR ZIRA, HE'D STILL BE HERE...
...STUFFED -- WITH GLASS EYES -- IN THE GREAT HALL OF THE ZAIUS MUSEUM. LIKE HIS TWO FRIENDS.


WELL, I DON'T PLAN TO STAY AS LONG AS HIS TWO FRIENDS, THEN. LOOK, CAN YOU GIVE ME SOME FOOD, WATER, AND A MAP... SO I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING...?
AND YOUR SHOULDER -- IT NEEDS ATTENTION.

HERE'S THE MAP. I'LL SHOW YOU WHERE OUR CITY IS -- AND WHERE ZIRA AND I LAST SAW TAYLOR.
WELL, IT'S A START AT LEAST.

NOW, YOU SEE THIS RIVER WHICH FLOWS TO THE NORTH? IT ROUGHLY PARALLELS THE ROUTE WE TOOK WITH TAYLOR...
HOLD STILL NOW... WHILE I DRESS THIS WOUND...

OUCH! WHAT IS THAT STUFF YOU'RE USING? BURNS LIKE FIRE!
YOU WOULDN'T KNOW IF I TOLD YOU. JUST RELAX AND TRUST ME -- AMONG OTHER THINGS, I'M A TRAINED VET.


THANKS. I'LL TRY NOT TO CLAW YOU.
AS I WAS SAYING: WE LAST SAW TAYLOR WITH NOVA GOING THROUGH THE GAP BETWEEN THIS LAKE AND THE SEA.
THEY WERE HEADING DEEP INTO THE TERRITORY WE CALL--

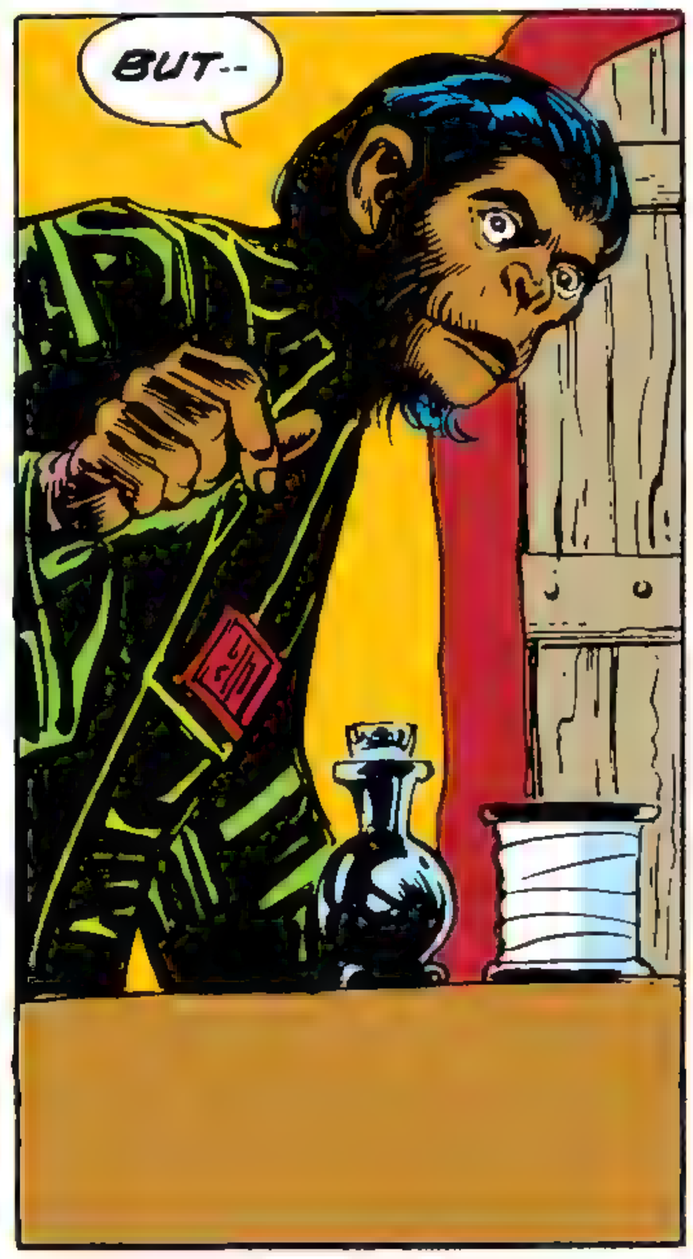
YES, YES -- I KNOW. THE FORBIDDEN ZONE.
WHO TOLD YOU THAT?
YOUR GLORIOUS LEADER -- THE BIG BRUISER WITH ALL THE HAIR ON HIS FACE. HE LIKES MAKING SPEECHES.

YOU MEAN TO SAY YOU MANAGED TO EAVESDROP ON--
BAK BAK BAK

QUICK!

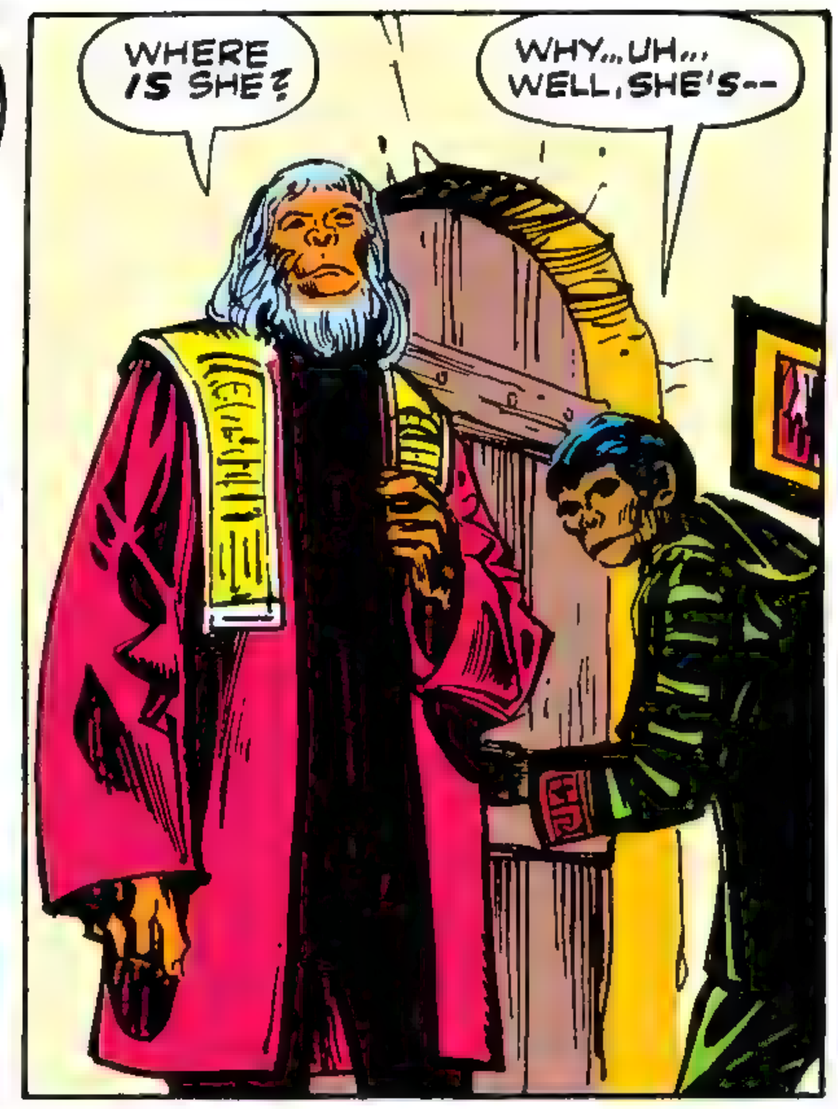
NOW JUST STAY IN THERE AND KEEP SILENT.

OPEN THE DOOR, CORNELIUS.
BAK BAK BAK


BUT--

OPEN IT.

DR. ZAIUS--! WE WERE JUST GOING TO EAT--
NOT BEFORE I'VE TALKED SOME SENSE INTO THAT HEADSTRONG WIFE OF YOURS.


WHERE IS SHE?
WHY... UH... WELL, SHE'S--

GOOD DAY, DR. ZAIUS.
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE? HAS THERE BEEN AN ACCIDENT?
CORNELIUS HIT ME.

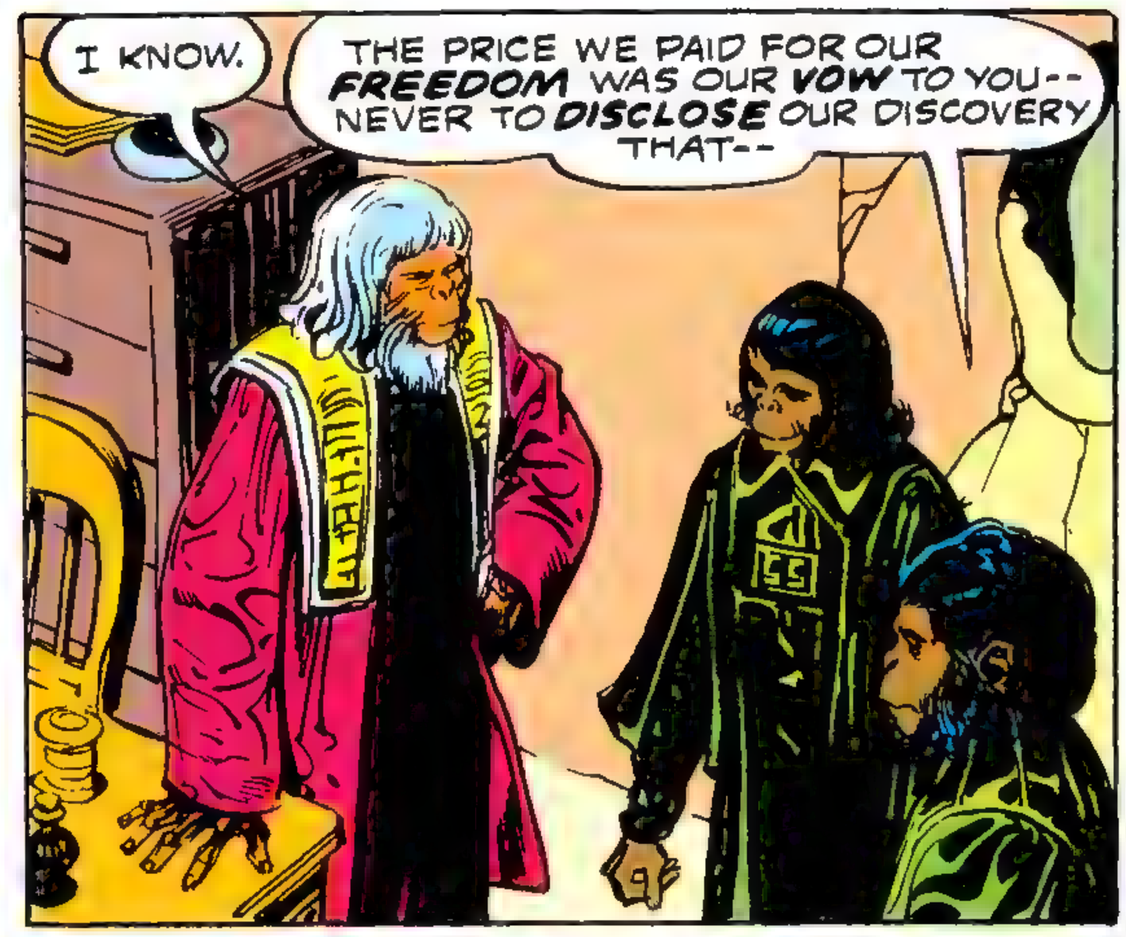
FOR MY BAD BEHAVIOR AT THE MEETING.

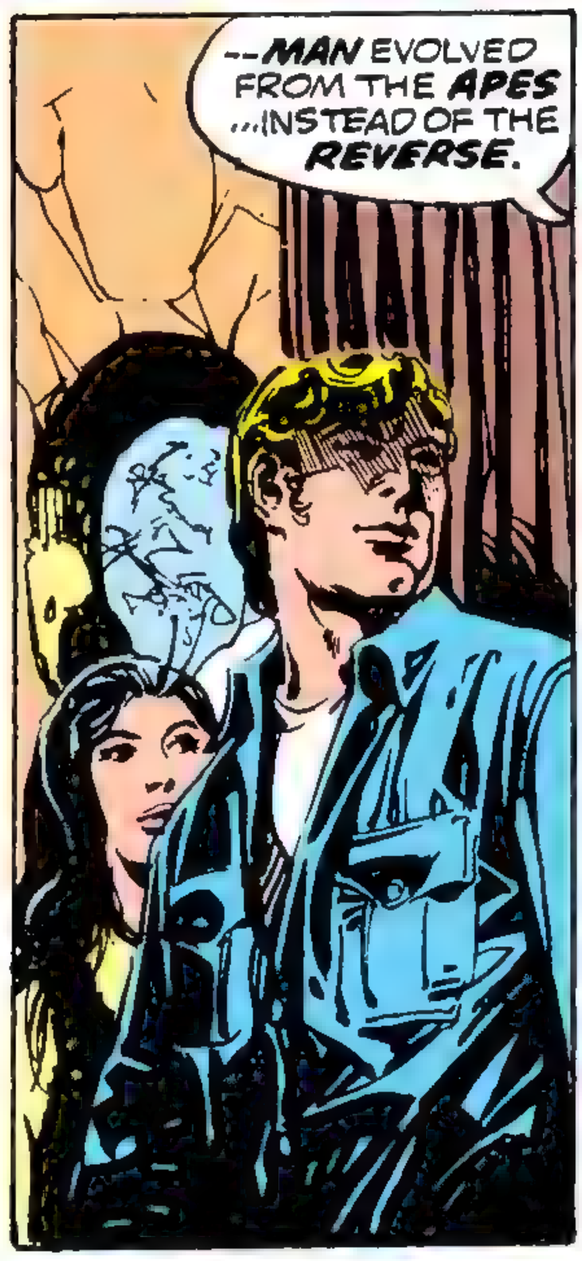
I DON'T BLAME HIM. YOUR CONDUCT WAS DISGRACEFUL.*
I DON'T RESENT IT.
BUT HIS NAILS NEED CLIPPING.
*LAST ISSUE. --ARCHIE

ENOUGH OF THIS NONSENSE! ARE YOU SO BLIND -- YOU TWO PSYCHOLOGISTS-- THAT YOU CAN'T SEE WE'RE ON THE BRINK OF A GRAVE CRISIS? YOU HEARD URSUS' SPEECH...
MILITARISTIC TRIPE!
ZIRA! PLEASE...!

PERHAPS. BUT ELEVEN OF HIS GORILLA SCOUTS VANISHED ON RECOINNAISSANCE IN THE FOR-BIDDEN ZONE.
SERVES HIM RIGHT.
... AND URSUS IS DETERMINED TO HAVE HIS REVENGE --ALL-OUT WAR IF NEED BE...

URSUS NOW HAS THE "INCIDENT" HE NEEDS TO EMBARK ON A RAMPAGE OF CONQUEST.
BUT THAT'S APPALLING! WHEN ZIRA AND I FIRST UNLOCKED THE SECRETS OF THE FORBIDDEN ZONE, YOU INTERVENED AT OUR TRIAL FOR HERESY.

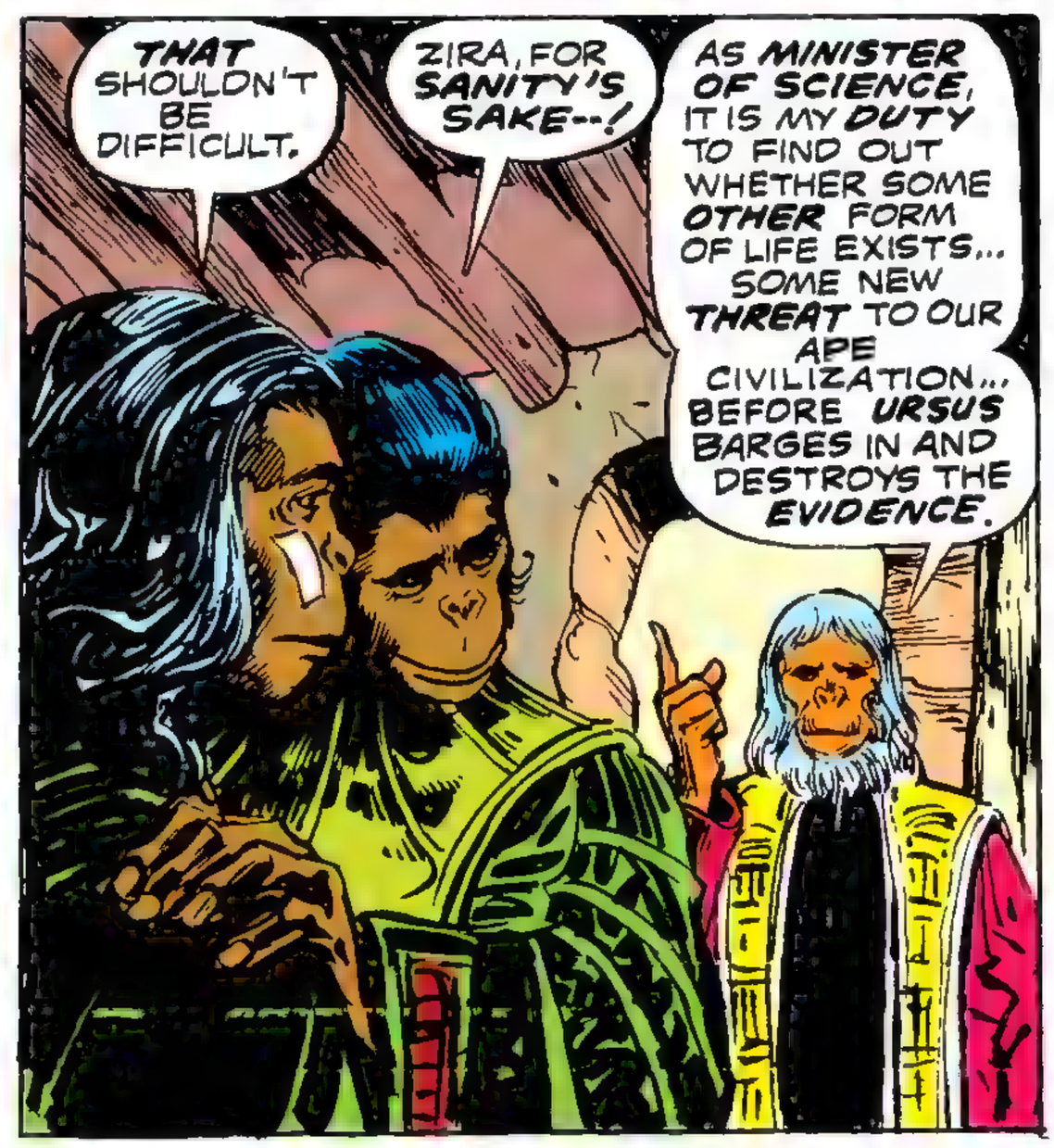

I KNOW.
THE PRICE WE PAID FOR OUR FREEDOM WAS OUR VOW TO YOU-- NEVER TO DISCLOSE OUR DISCOVERY THAT--


--MAN EVOLVED FROM THE APES ...INSTEAD OF THE REVERSE.

BUT TO REMAIN SILENT WHILE THIS BULLY URSUS DESTROYS EVERYTHING IN HIS PATH IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE.
WOULD YOU RATHER STAND TRIAL FOR HERESY AGAIN?
NO, MY CHILDREN, THIS TIME I MAY NOT BE HERE TO PLEAD FOR CLEMENCY.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
INTO THE FORBIDDEN ZONE WITH URSUS.

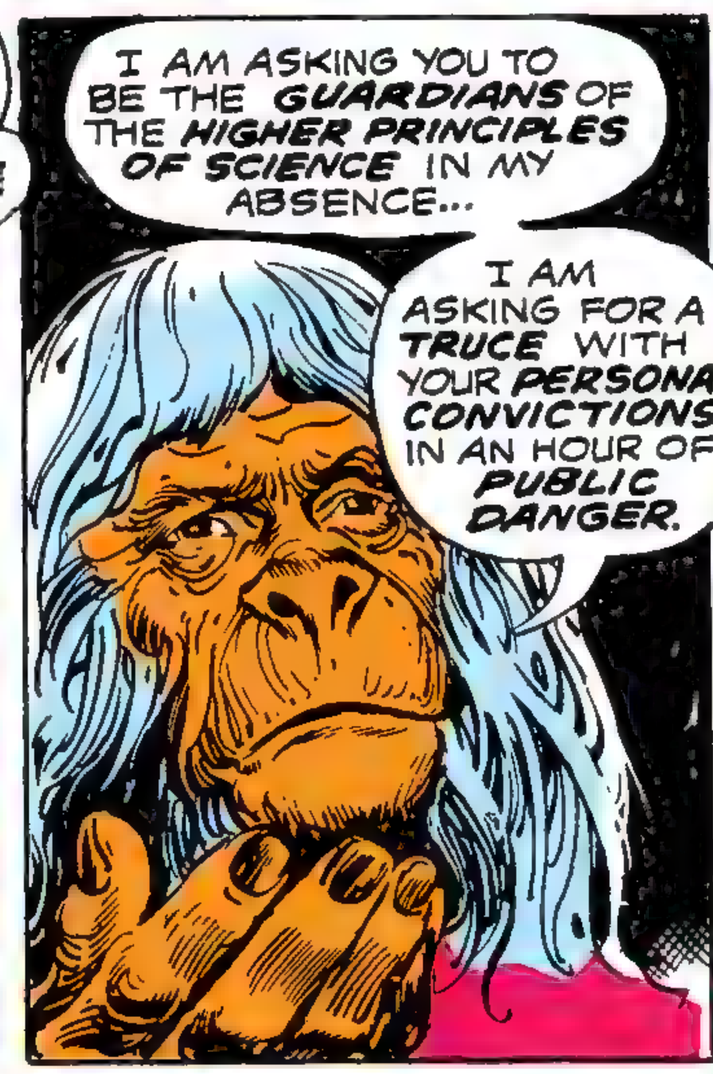
ANOTHER MAN-HUNT, DOCTOR?
THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THOSE SCOUTS IS MORE THAN THE WORK OF A MERE MAN. SOMEONE -- OR SOMETHING --HAS OUTWITTED THE INTELLIGENCE OF THE GORILLAS.


THAT SHOULDN'T BE DIFFICULT.
ZIRA, FOR SANITY'S SAKE--!
AS MINISTER OF SCIENCE, IT IS MY DUTY TO FIND OUT WHETHER SOME OTHER FORM OF LIFE EXISTS... SOME NEW THREAT TO OUR APE CIVILIZATION... BEFORE URSUS BARGES IN AND DESTROYS THE EVIDENCE.

BUT IF THESE CREATURES--OR WHATEVER THEY ARE--HAVE PROVEN THEMSELVES TO BE INTELLIGENT, WHY SHOULDN'T THEY BE ABLE TO LIVE WITH US IN PEACE AND HARMONY?
FOR THE SAME REASON MAN COULD NOT LIVE IN HARMONY--EVEN WITH HIS OWN KIND. HE ABUSED HIS OWN INTELLIGENCE AND DESTROYED HIS OWN WORLD.
WE APES HAVE LEARNED TO LIVE IN INNOCENCE. LET NO ONE, BE HE MAN OR SOME OTHER CREATURE, ATTEMPT TO CORRUPT THAT INNOCENCE.

WHY ARE YOU FROWNING? IS INNOCENCE SO EVIL--?
IGNORANCE IS.
THERE IS A TIME FOR TRUTH.

AND THE TIME IS ALWAYS NOW.
BAH!
ARE YOU ASKING ME TO SURRENDER MY PRINCIPLES?

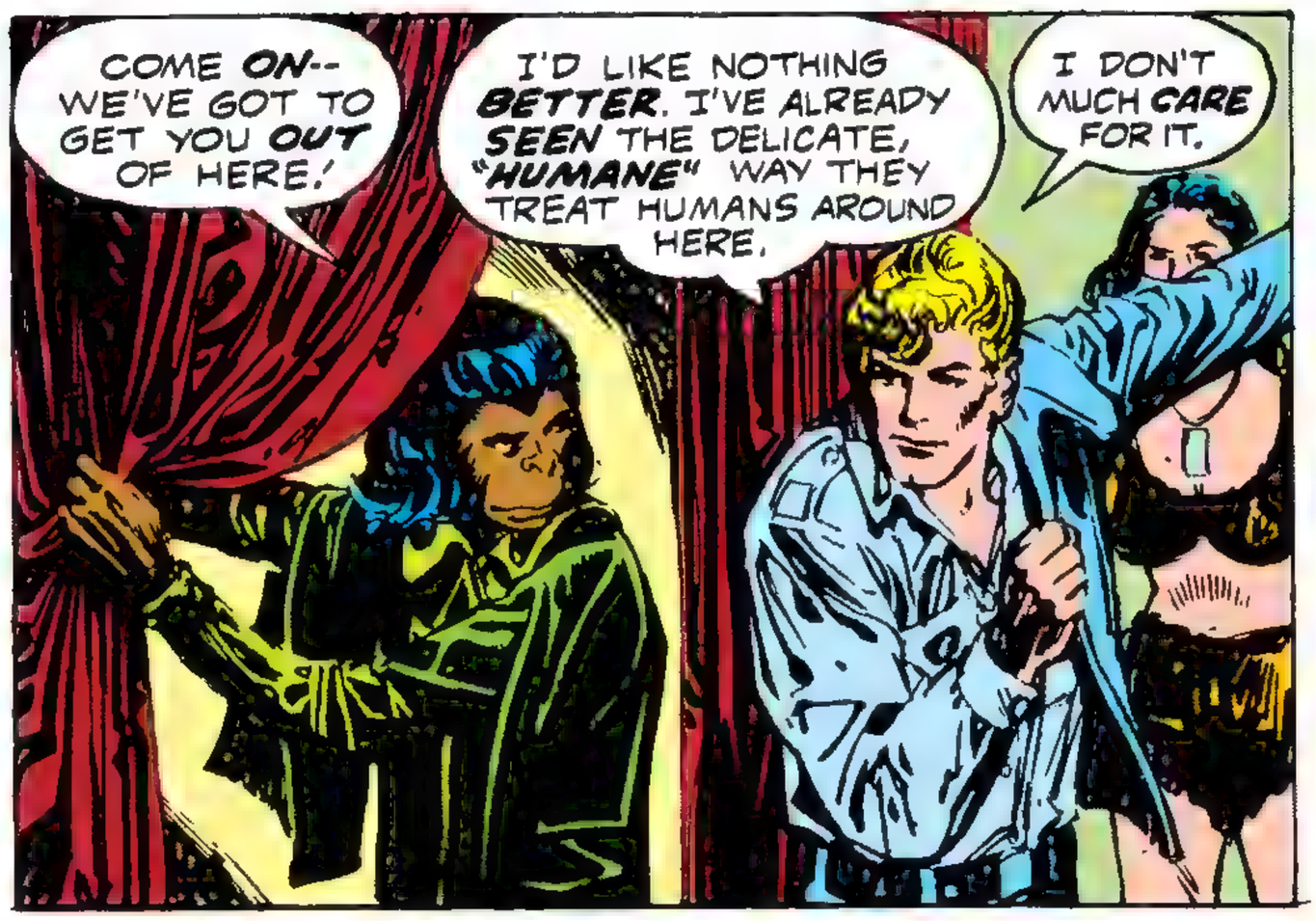

I AM ASKING YOU TO BE THE GUARDIANS OF THE HIGHER PRINCIPLES OF SCIENCE IN MY ABSENCE...
I AM ASKING FOR A TRUCE WITH YOUR PERSONAL CONVICTIONS IN AN HOUR OF PUBLIC DANGER.

AND YOU SHALL HAVE IT, DR. ZAIUS--I ASSURE YOU. OR I... I SHALL HIT HER AGAIN.
THANK YOU, CORNELIUS. BUT LET'S HAVE NO VIOLENCE, SHALL WE...

NOW I'M RELYING ON YOU BOTH...
AND WE'RE RELYING ON YOU, TOO, DOCTOR.

IF I SHOULD FAIL TO RETURN FROM THE UNKNOWN, THE WHOLE FUTURE OF OUR CIVILIZATION WILL BE YOURS TO PRESERVE... OR DESTROY.
SO THINK WELL BEFORE YOU ACT.

GOOD-BYE, DOCTOR ...AND GOOD LUCK.

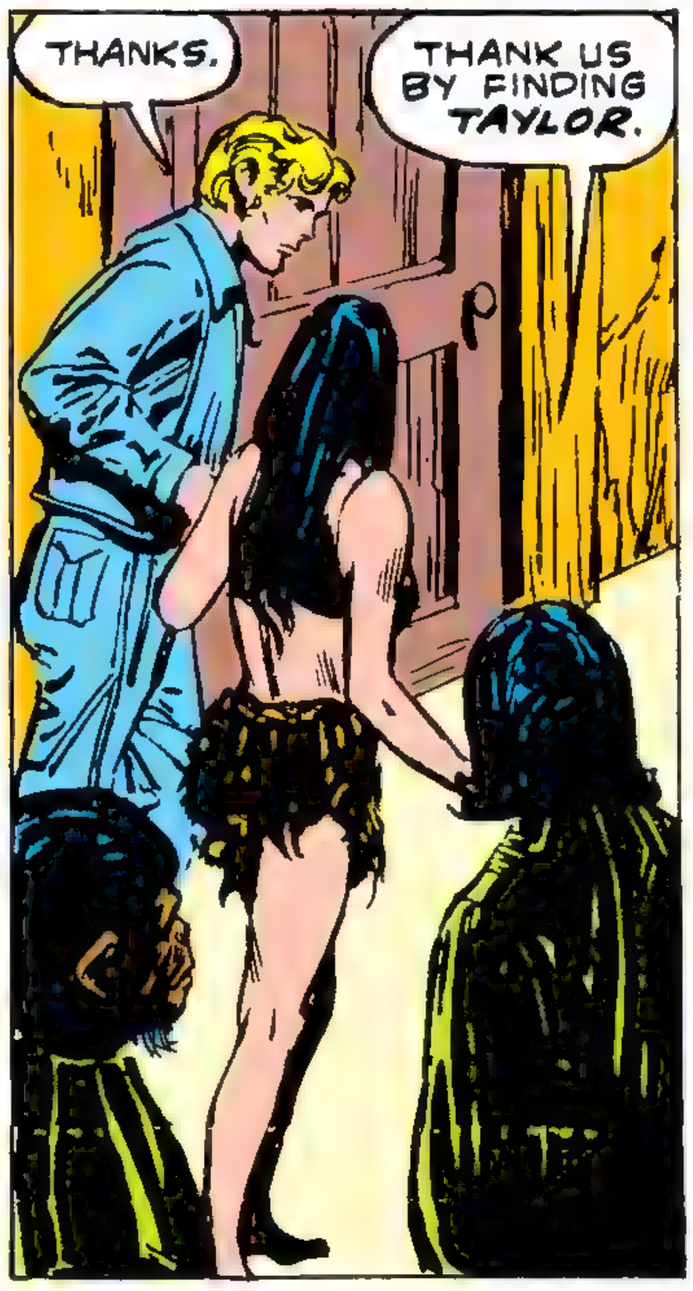

COME ON-- WE'VE GOT TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE!
I'D LIKE NOTHING BETTER. I'VE ALREADY SEEN THE DELICATE, "HUMANE" WAY THEY TREAT HUMANS AROUND HERE.
I DON'T MUCH CARE FOR IT.

HAVE YOU A HORSE?
UP IN THE SCRUB.
GOOD. BUT I'LL HAVE TO GET YOU ANOTHER SET OF CLOTHES-- THE KIND SUITED FOR HUMANS LIKE YOURSELF. YOU'LL PASS.

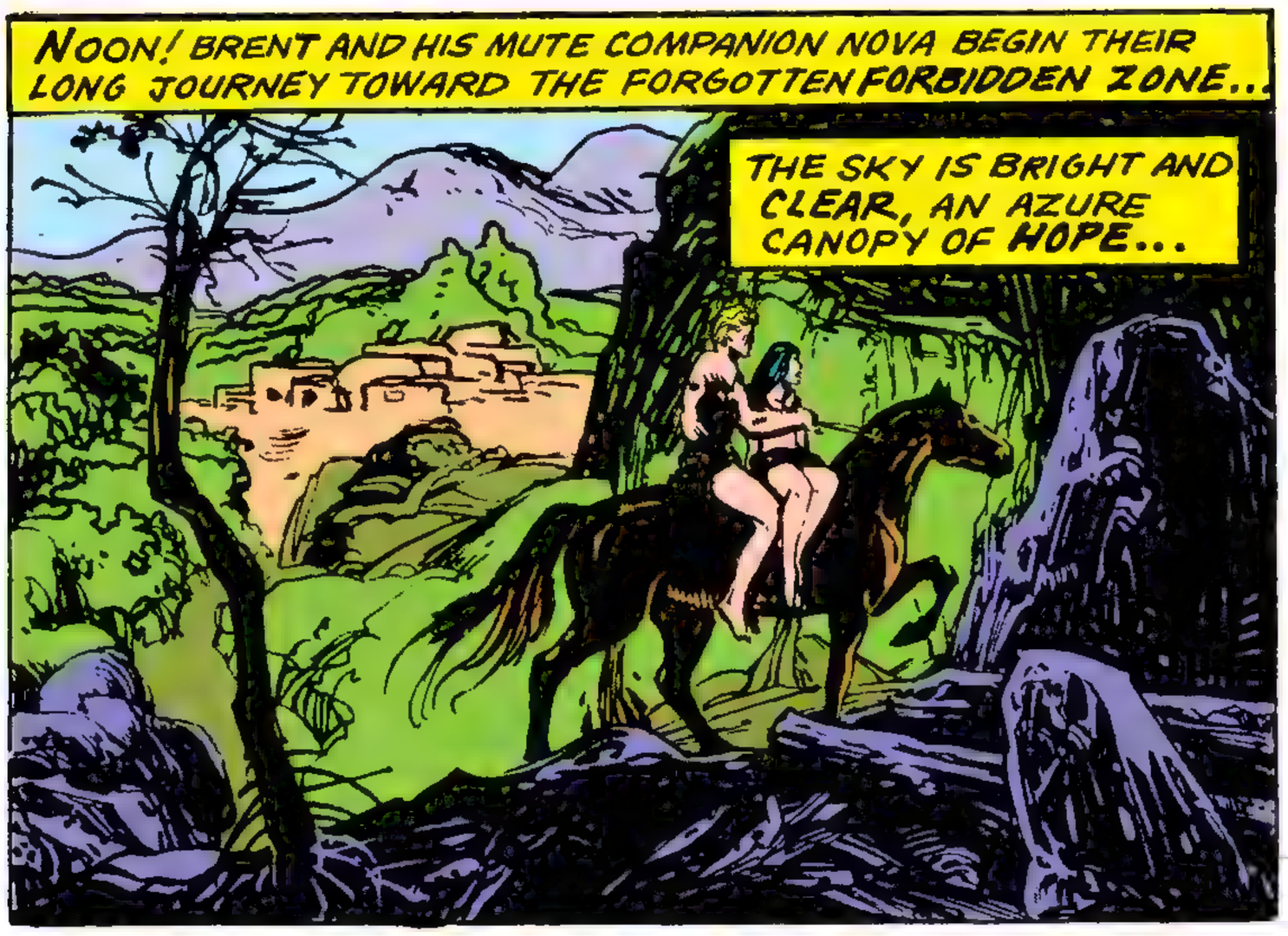
IF YOU'RE CAUGHT BY THE GORILLAS, REMEMBER ONE THING-NEVER TO SPEAK.
WHAT THE DEVIL WOULD I HAVE TO SAY TO A GORILLA?

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
ONLY APES CAN SPEAK. NOT NOVA -- AND NOT YOU. IF THEY CATCH YOU SPEAKING, THEY WILL DISSECT YOU, AND THEY WILL KILL YOU... IN THAT ORDER.

CORNELIUS IS RIGHT. BE CAREFUL AND GET OUT OF THOSE THINGS YOU'RE WEARING AS SOON AS YOU CAN.

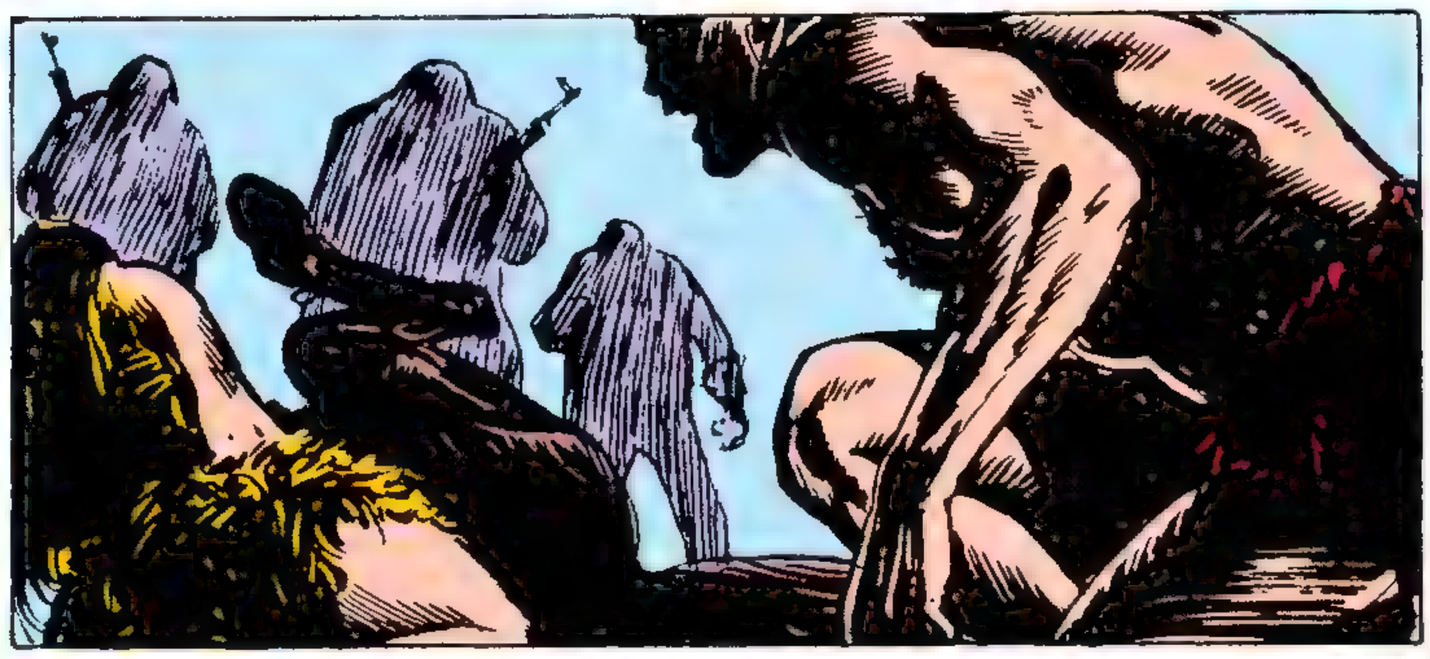

THANKS.
THANK US BY FINDING TAYLOR.

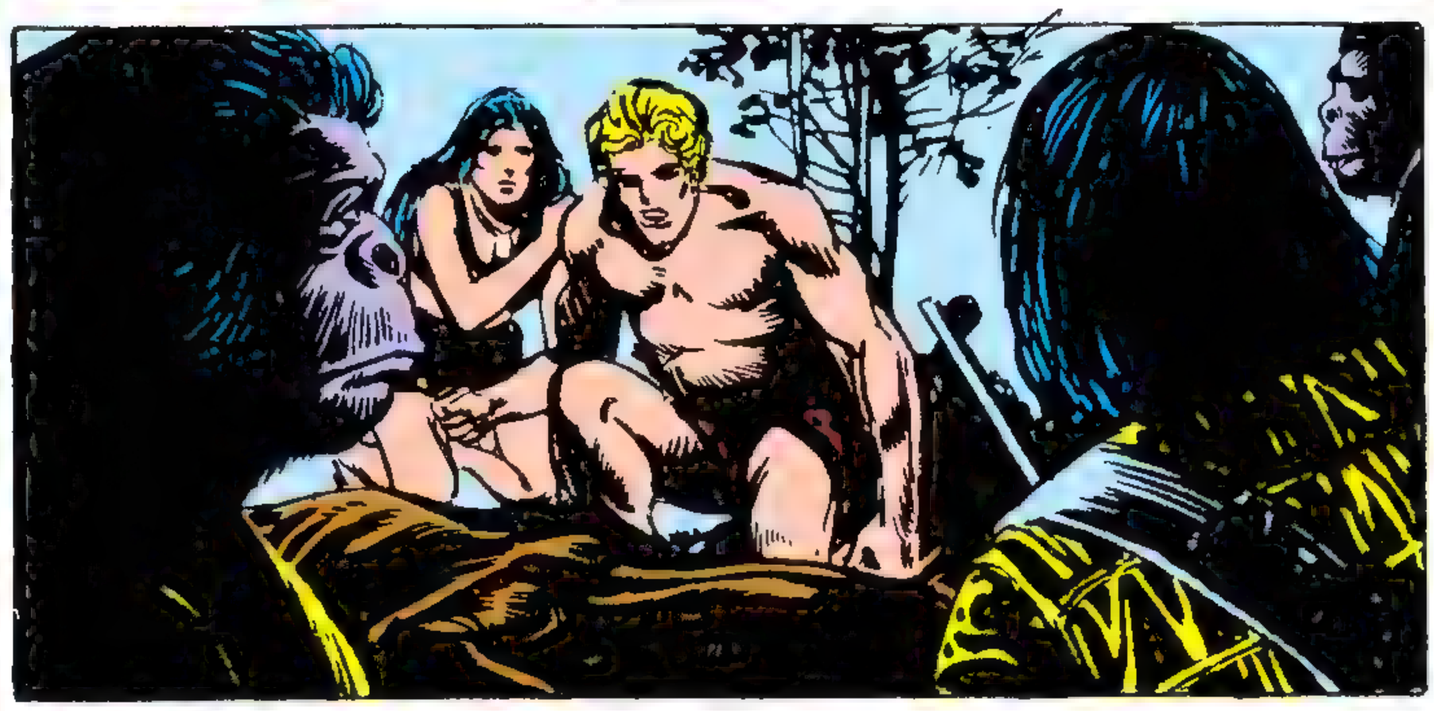
IF HE'S ALIVE.

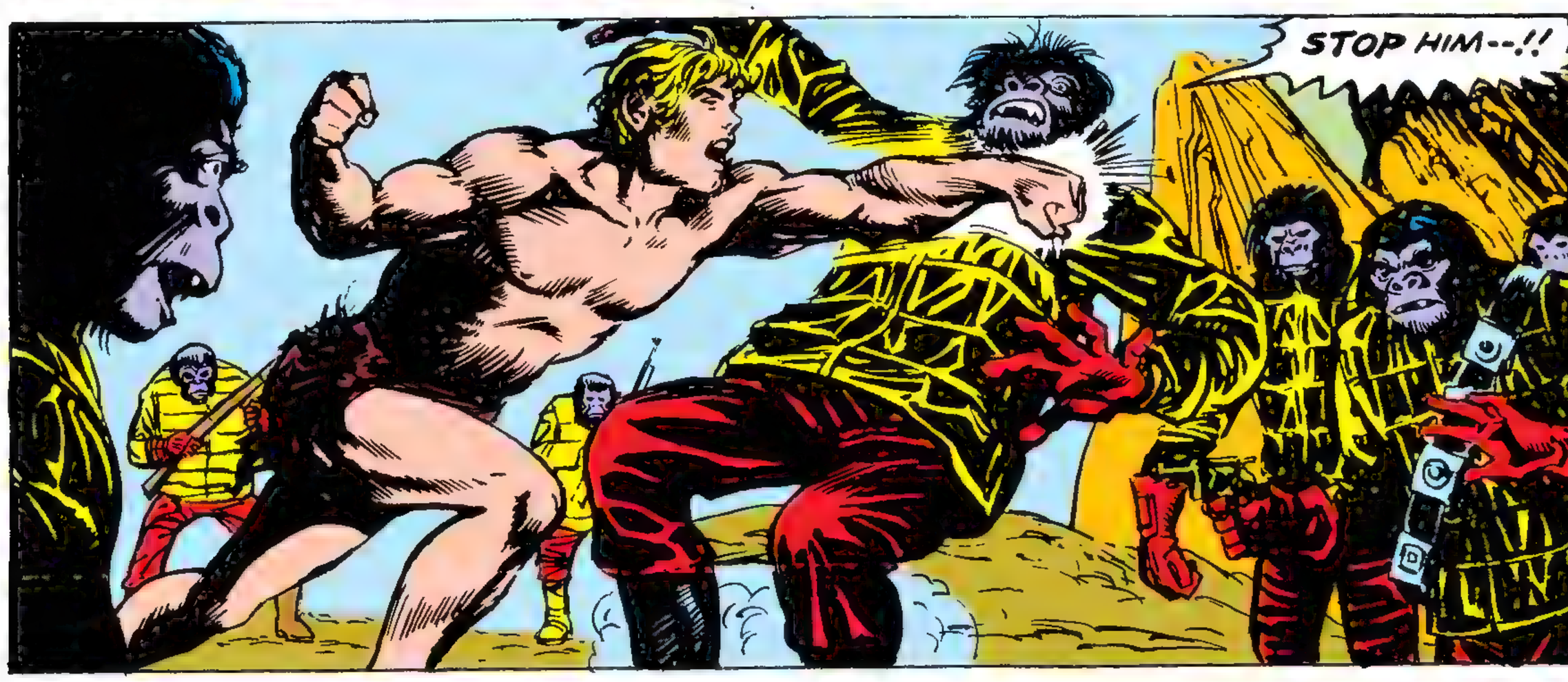

NOON! BRENT AND HIS MUTE COMPANION NOVA BEGIN THEIR LONG JOURNEY TOWARD THE FORGOTTEN FORBIDDEN ZONE..
THE SKY IS BRIGHT AND CLEAR, AN AZURE CANOPY OF HOPE...

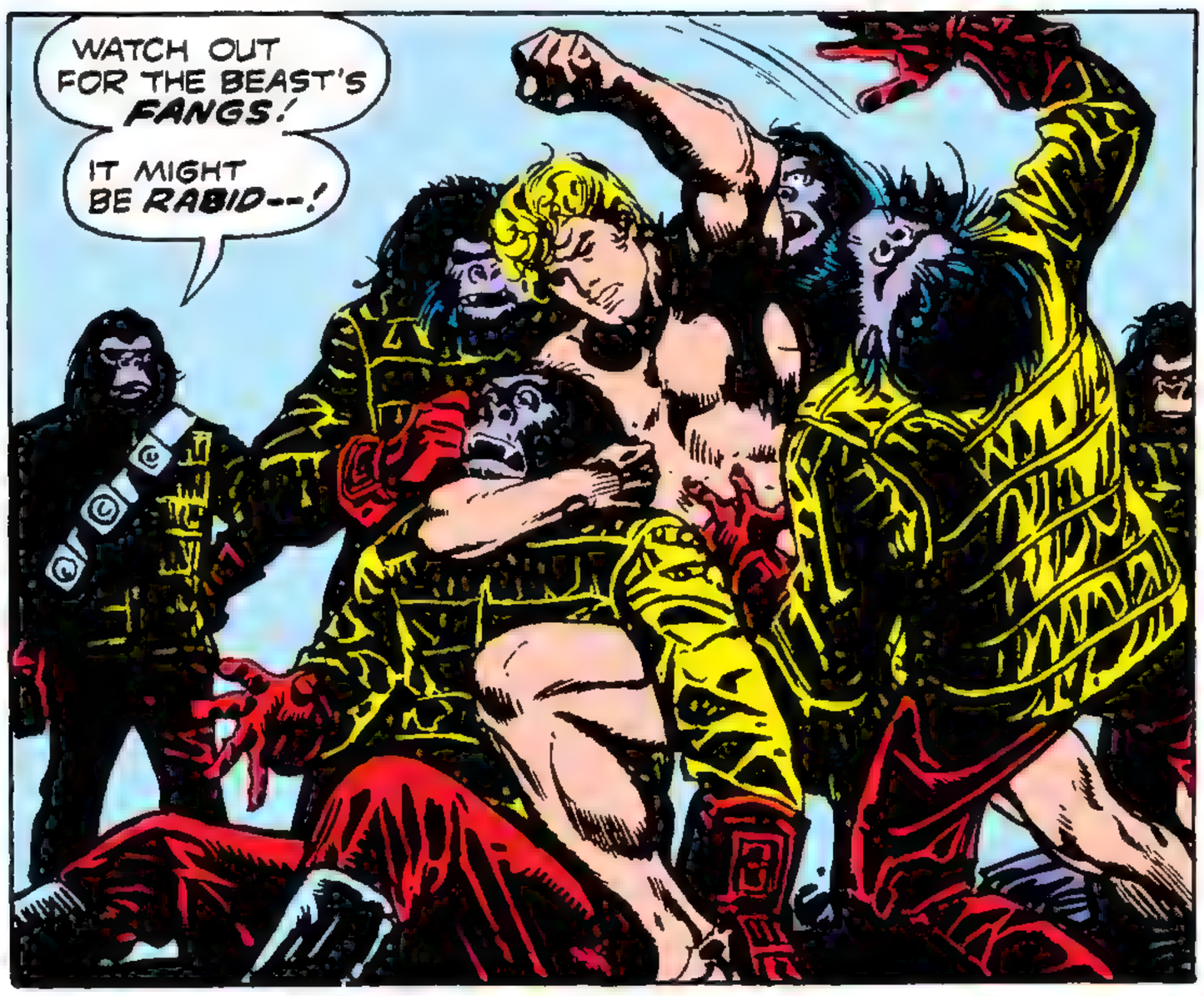
WHNEEEE
KRAK
...HOPE WHICH DIES TO THE THUNDER OF MADNESS--

--GORILLAS... BEARING RIFLES.

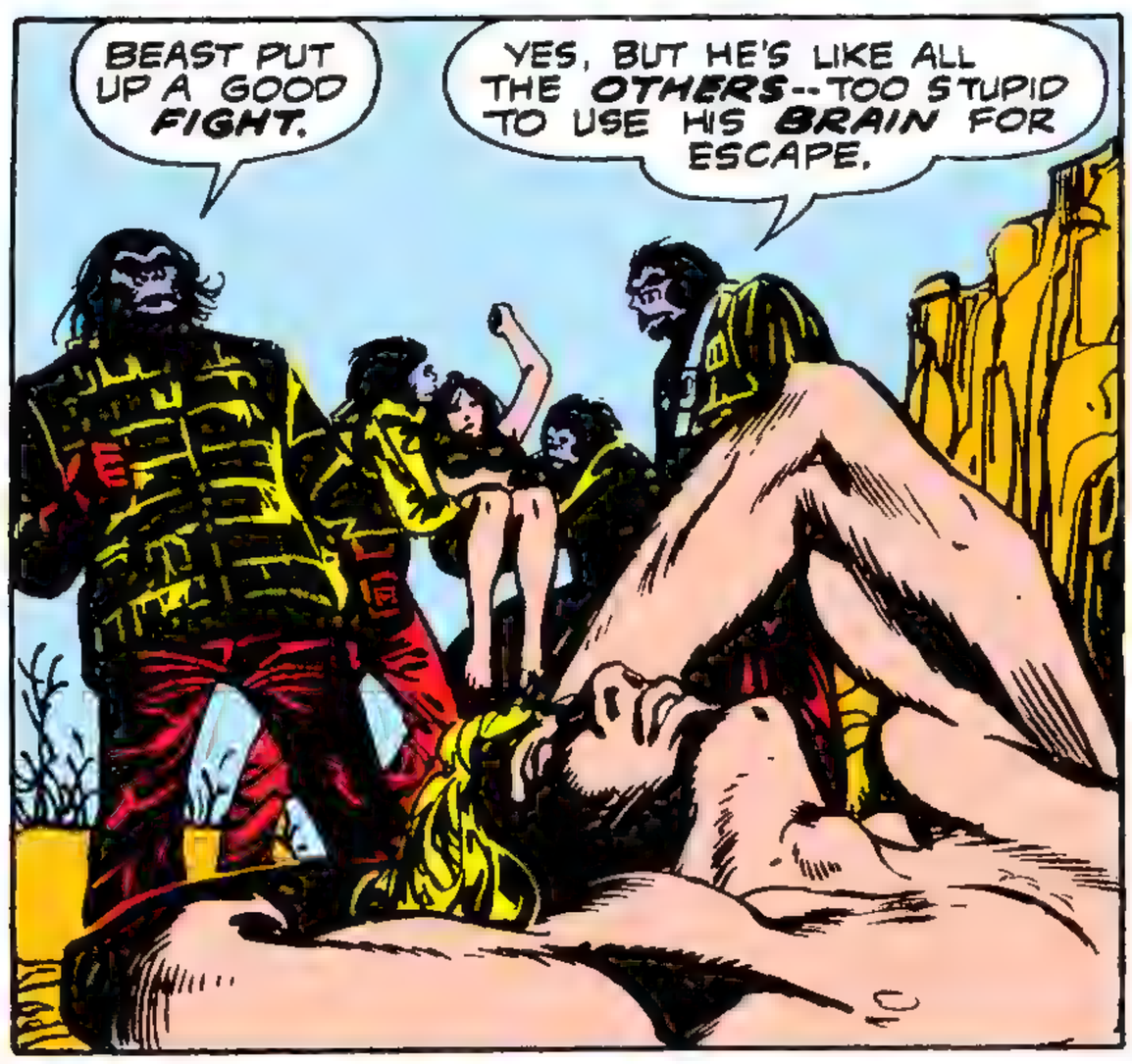


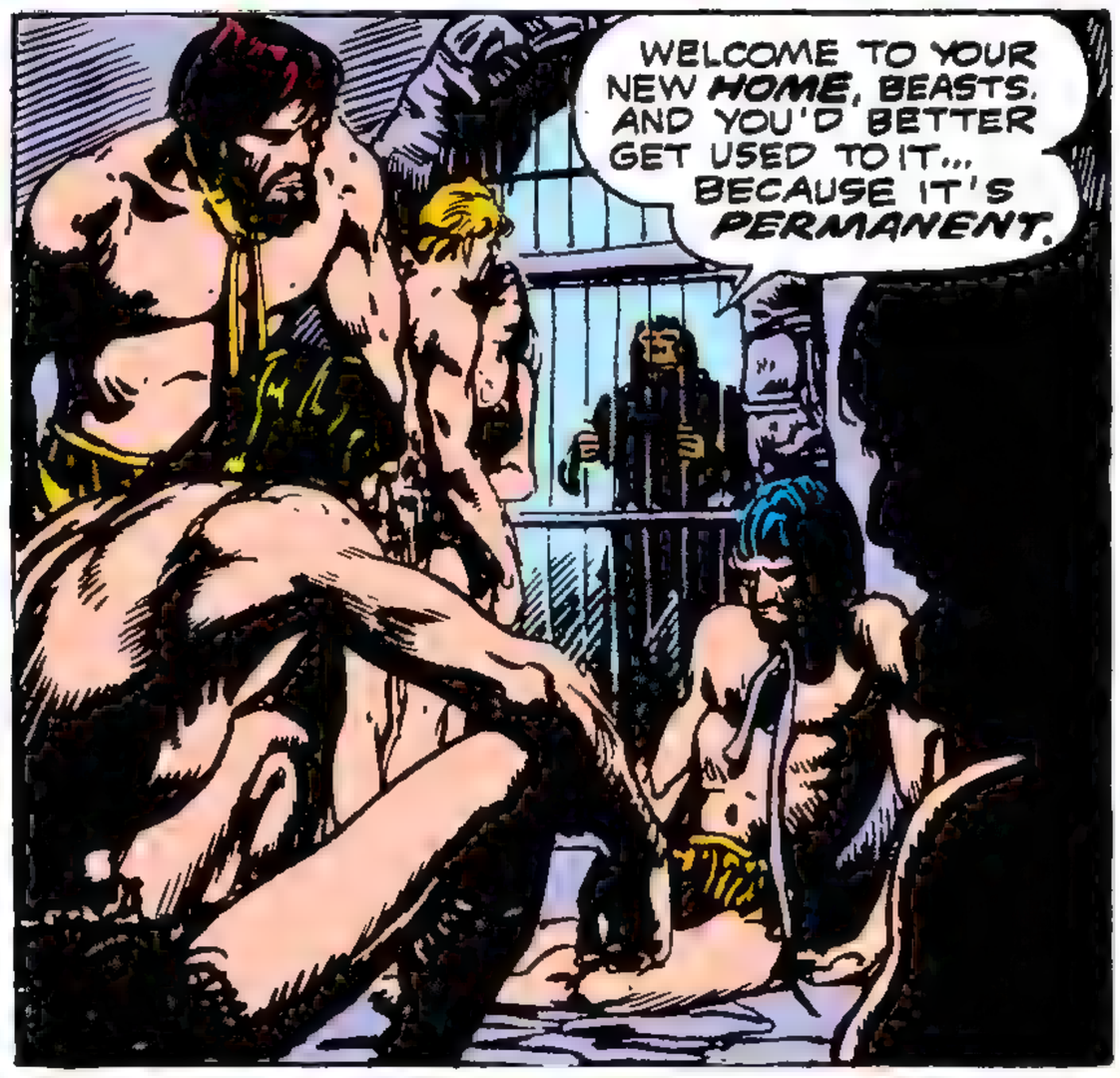



STOP HIM--!!


WATCH OUT FOR THE BEAST'S FANGS!
IT MIGHT BE RABID--!

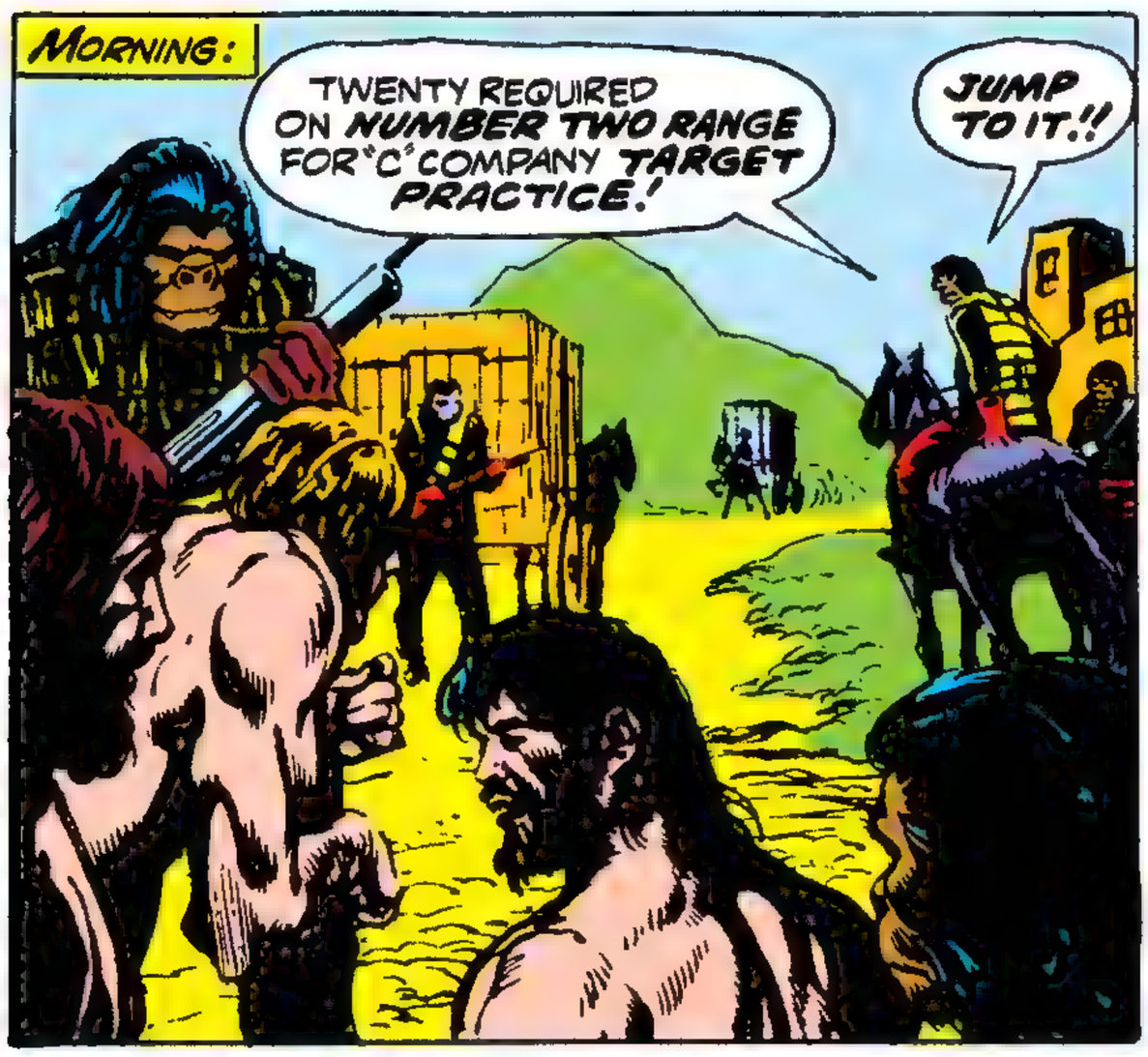
UHNN--!
SWOKK


BEAST PUT UP A GOOD FIGHT.
YES, BUT HE'S LIKE ALL THE OTHERS--TOO STUPID TO USE HIS BRAIN FOR ESCAPE.

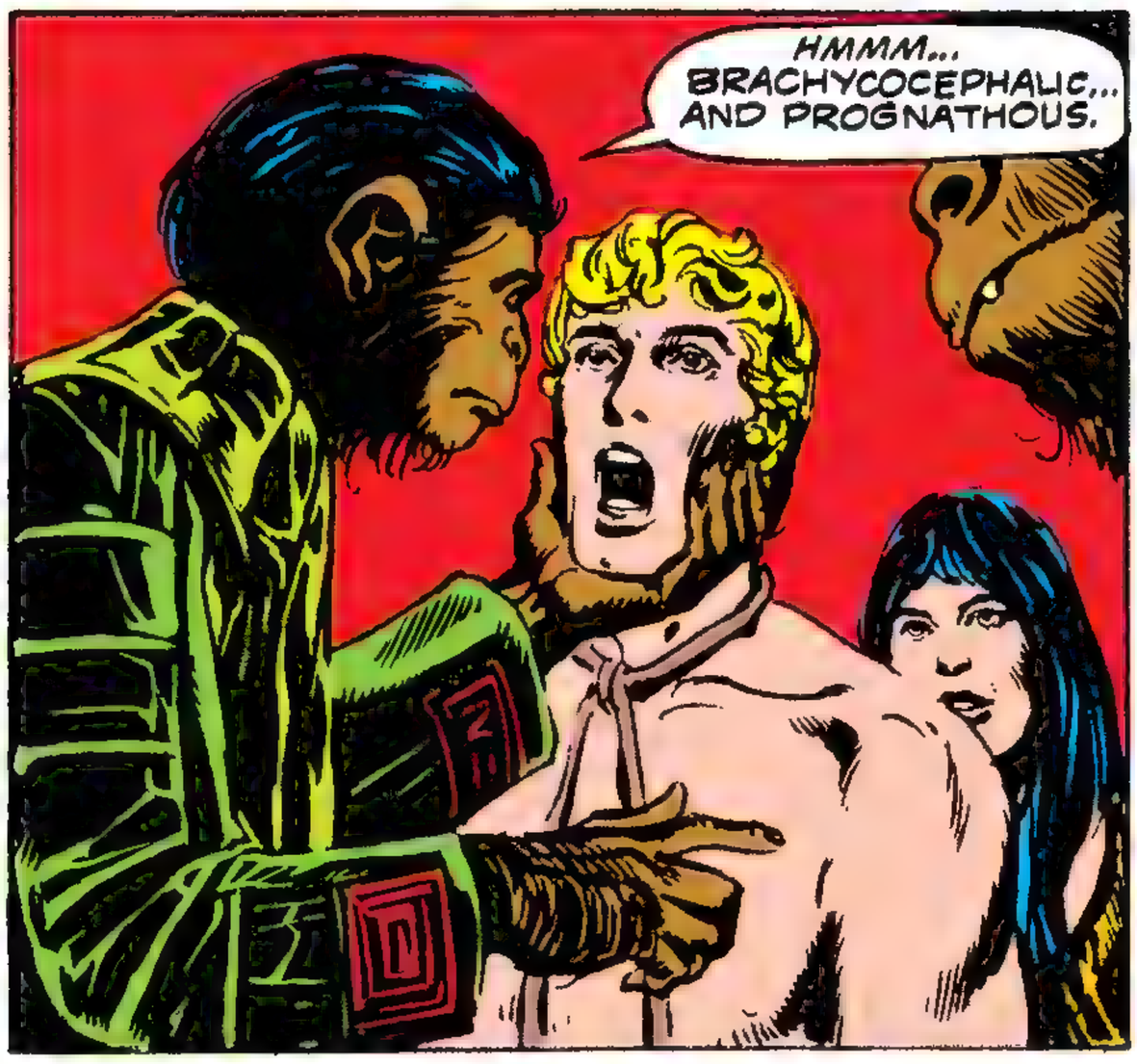

WELCOME TO YOUR NEW HOME, BEASTS, AND YOU'D BETTER GET USED TO IT... BECAUSE IT'S PERMANENT.

GOD HELP ME, "BROTHER"...

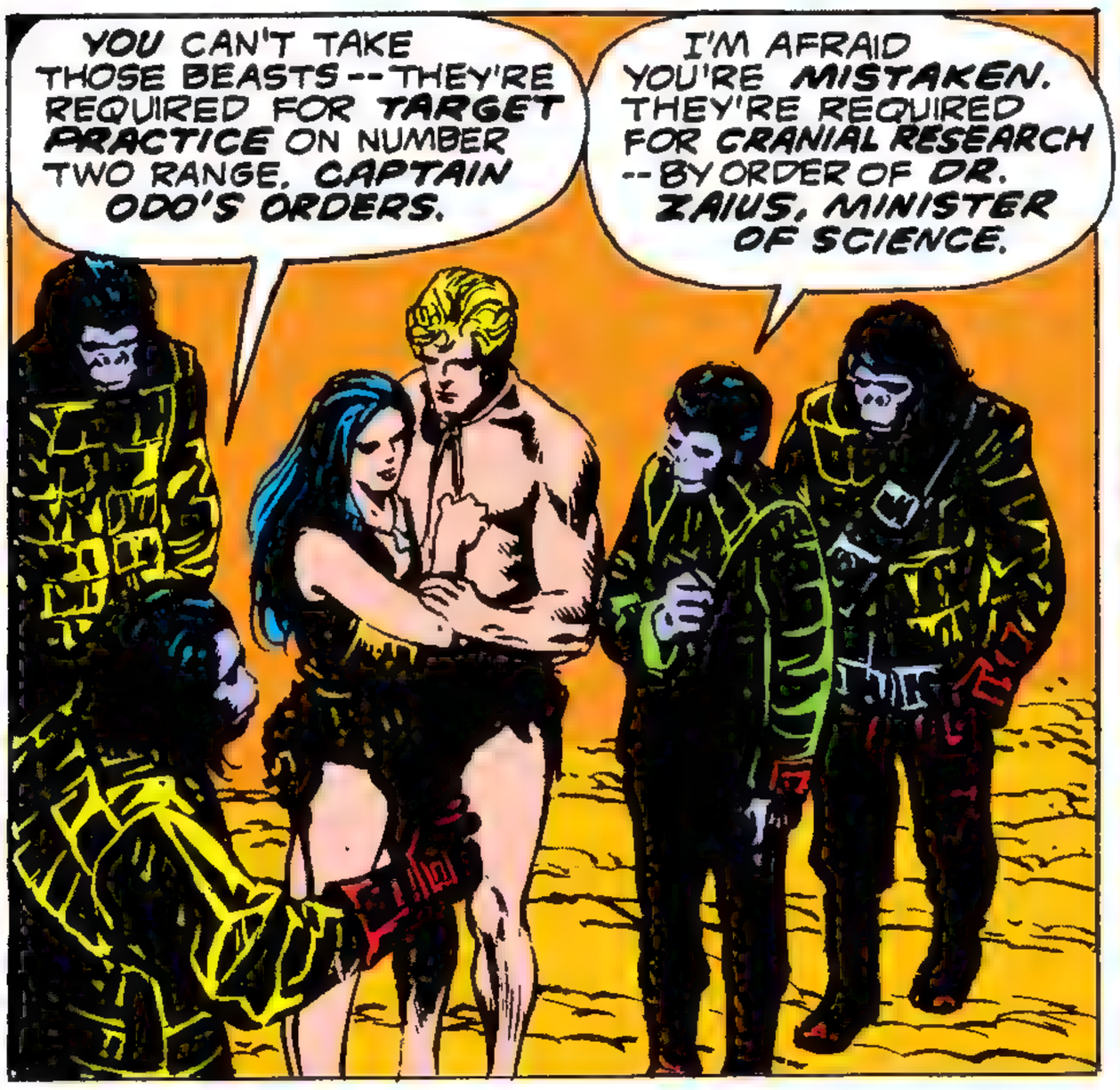
... FOR YOU... ARE... MY KEEPER.


MORNING:
TWENTY REQUIRED ON NUMBER TWO RANGE FOR "C" COMPANY TARGET PRACTICE!
JUMP TO IT!!

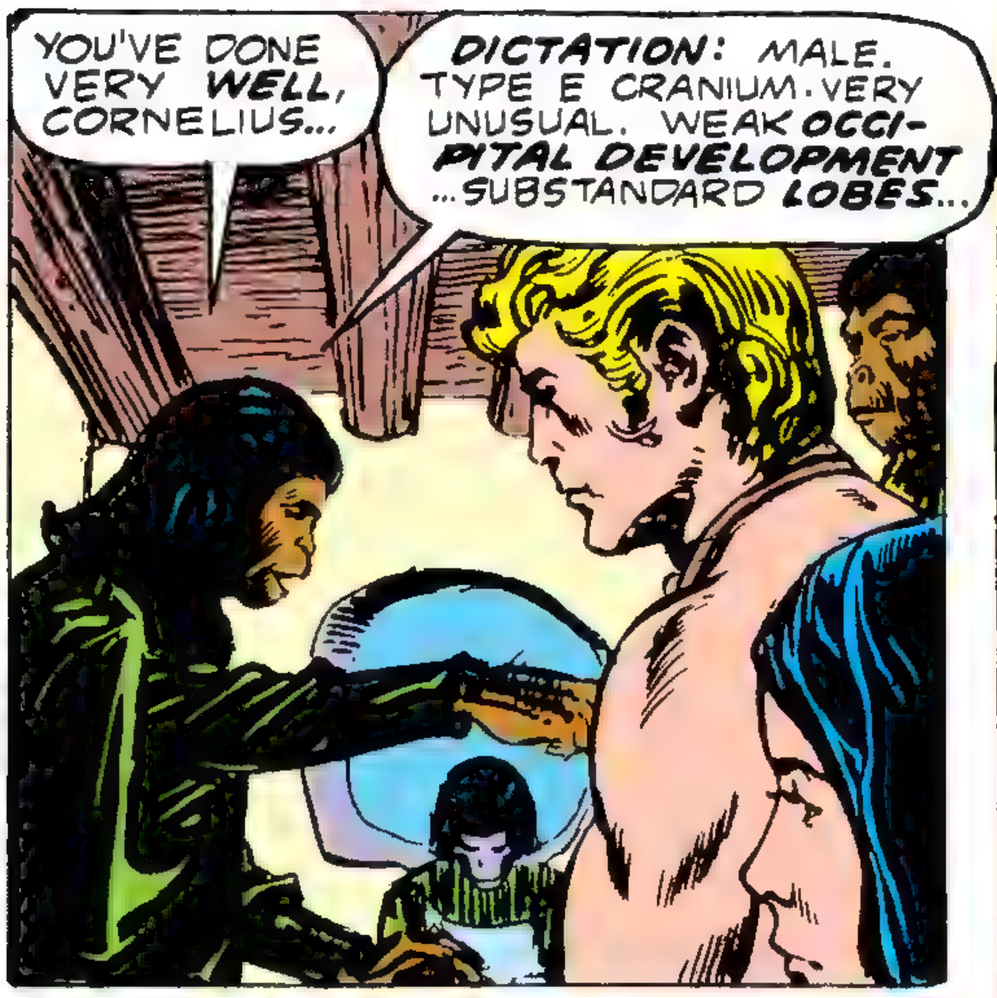
ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO--YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'D MAKE GOOD TARGETS.
STOP A MINUTE, GUARD. I WISH TO INSPECT THOSE HUMANS.

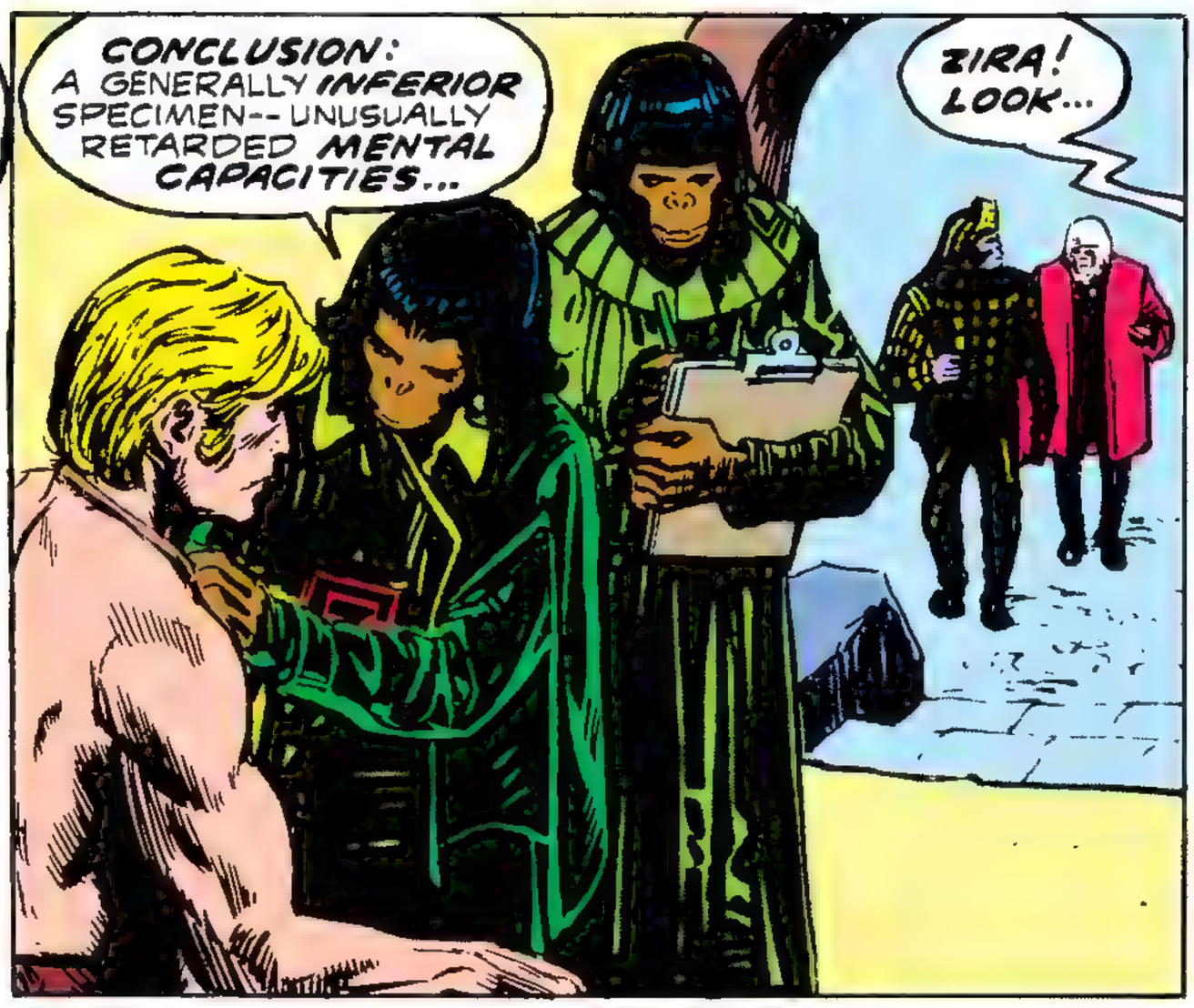

HMMM... BRACHYCOCEPHALIC... AND PROGNATHOUS.

AND THIS ONE — INCIPIENT GLAUCOMA!
YES, WE COULD DO WITH THESE TWO...THEY'LL MAKE EXCELLENT SUBJECTS...

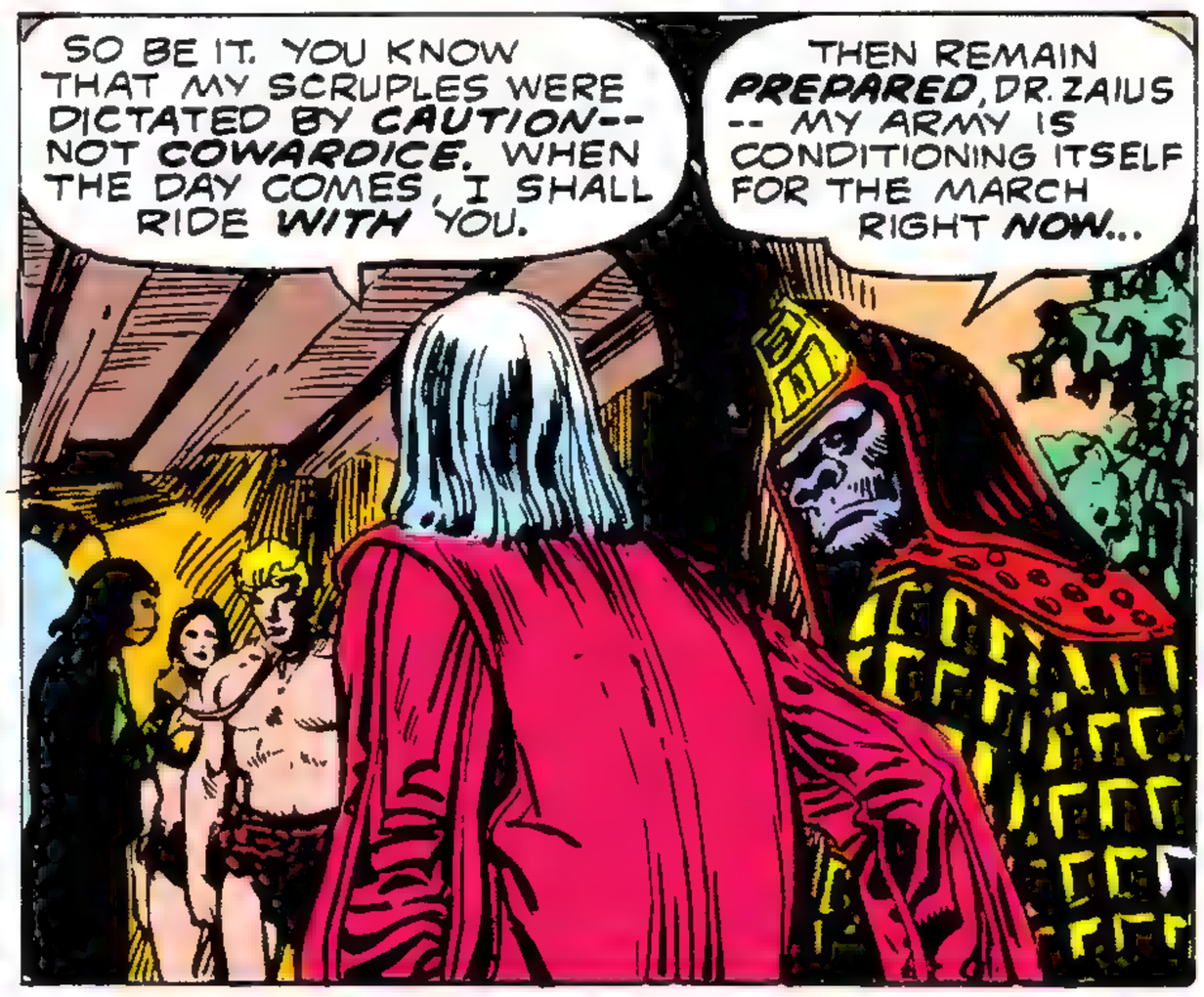

YOU CAN'T TAKE THOSE BEASTS--THEY'RE REQUIRED FOR TARGET PRACTICE ON NUMBER TWO RANGE. CAPTAIN ODO'S ORDERS.
I'M AFRAID YOU'RE MISTAKEN. THEY'RE REQUIRED FOR CRANIAL RESEARCH --BY ORDER OF DR. ZAIUS, MINISTER OF SCIENCE.

GUARDS-- LOAD THESE TWO HUMANS UP...
...INTO MY WAGON.

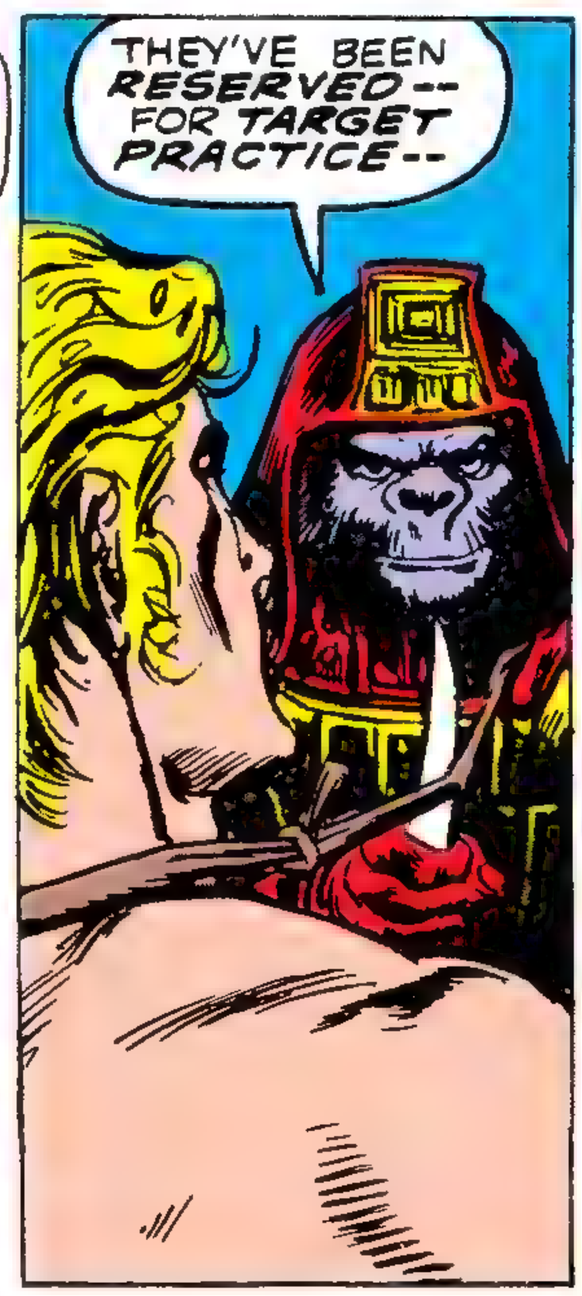

YOU'VE DONE VERY WELL, CORNELIUS...
DICTATION: MALE. TYPE E CRANIUM. VERY UNUSUAL. WEAK OCCIPITAL DEVELOPMENT ...SUBSTANDARD LOBES...

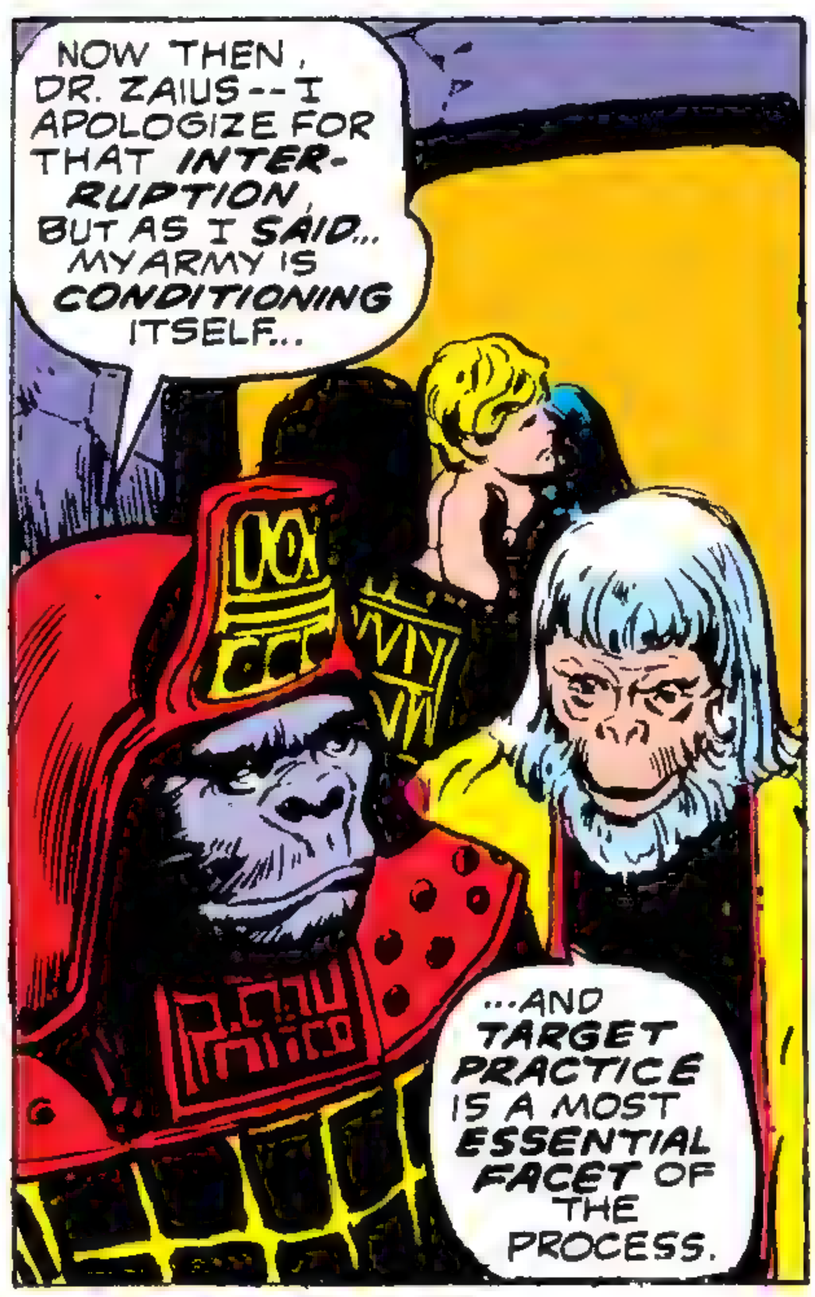

CONCLUSION: A GENERALLY INFERIOR SPECIMEN-- UNUSUALLY RETARDED MENTAL CAPACITIES...
ZIRA! LOOK...

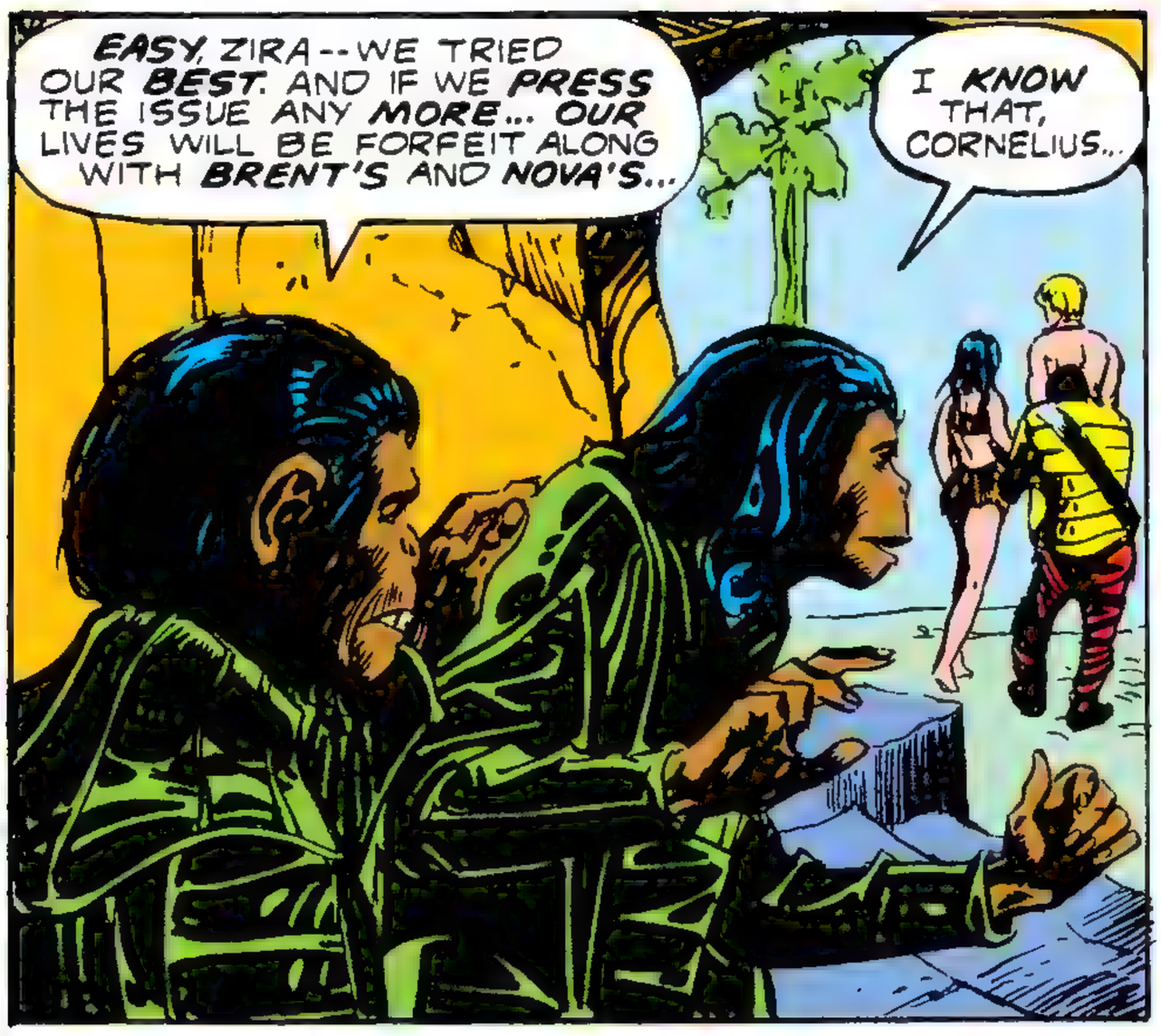
URSUS AND ZAIUS...
I KNOW.
IF THEY NOTICE ANYTHING UNUSUAL CORNELIUS...


SO BE IT. YOU KNOW THAT MY SCRUPLES WERE DICTATED BY CAUTION-- NOT COWARDICE. WHEN THE DAY COMES, I SHALL RIDE WITH YOU.
THEN REMAIN PREPARED, DR. ZAIUS -- MY ARMY IS CONDITIONING ITSELF FOR THE MARCH RIGHT NOW...

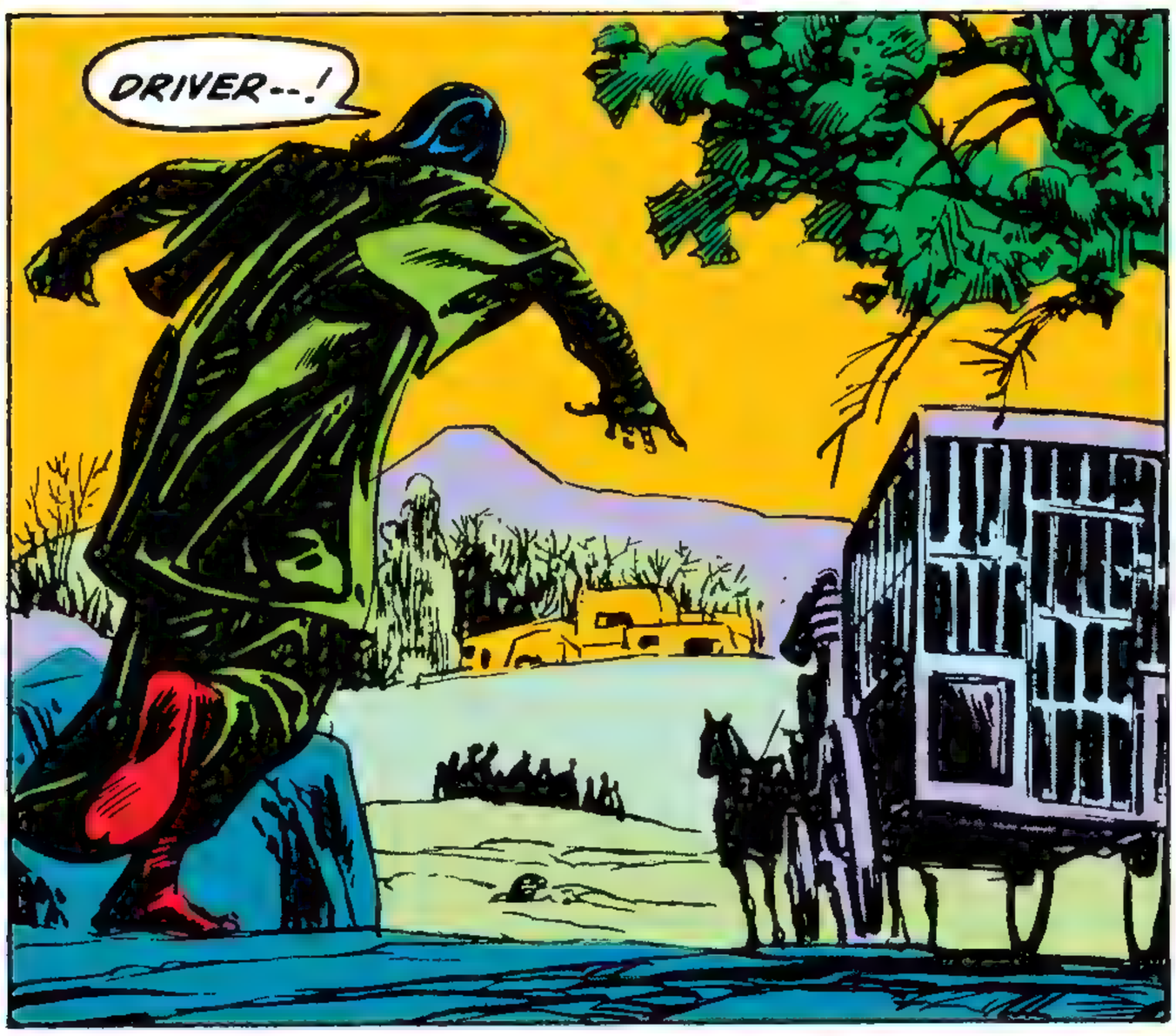
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE WE'VE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY SPECIMENS OF SUCH EXTRAORDINARY CLINICAL INTEREST, CORNELIUS. WE MUST TAKE THEM TO THE LABS AND --
YOU CAN'T HAVE THEM--


THEY'VE BEEN RESERVED -- FOR TARGET PRACTICE--


NOW THEN, DR. ZAIUS -- I APOLOGIZE FOR THAT INTERRUPTION, BUT AS I SAID... MY ARMY IS CONDITIONING ITSELF...
...AND TARGET PRACTICE IS A MOST ESSENTIAL FACET OF THE PROCESS.

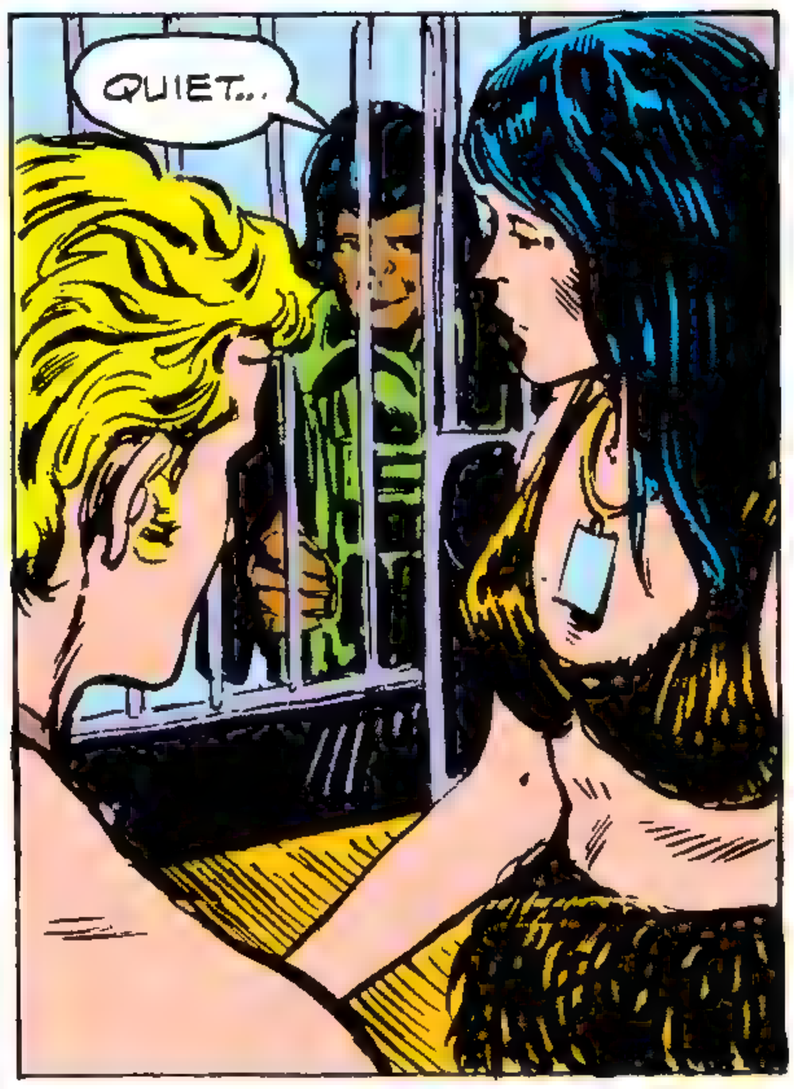

EASY, ZIRA--WE TRIED OUR BEST. AND IF WE PRESS THE ISSUE ANY MORE... OUR LIVES WILL BE FORFEIT ALONG WITH BRENT'S AND NOVA'S...
I KNOW THAT, CORNELIUS...

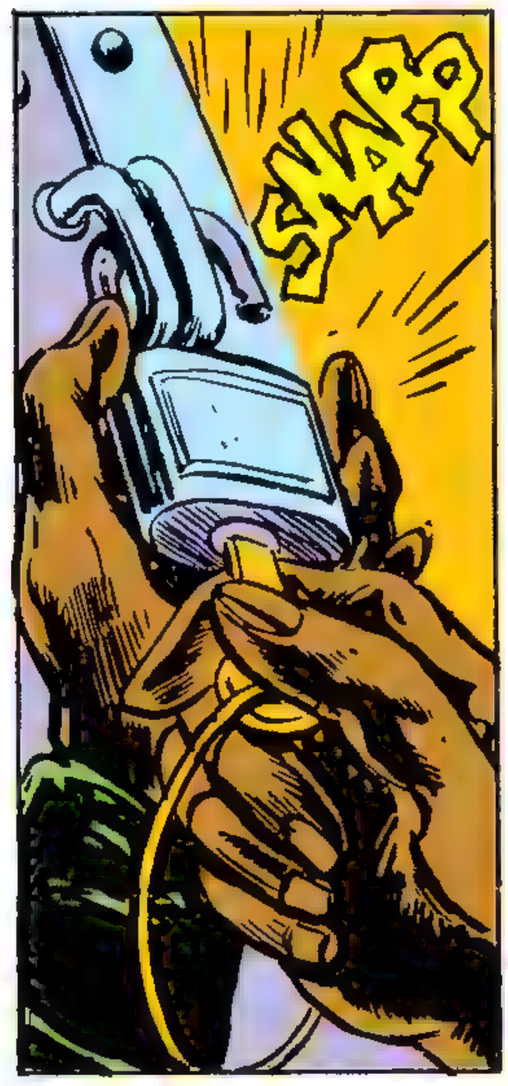
...BUT I'VE GOT ONE LAST IDEA THAT JUST MIGHT WORK.
ZIRA-- DON'T BE A FOOL --!

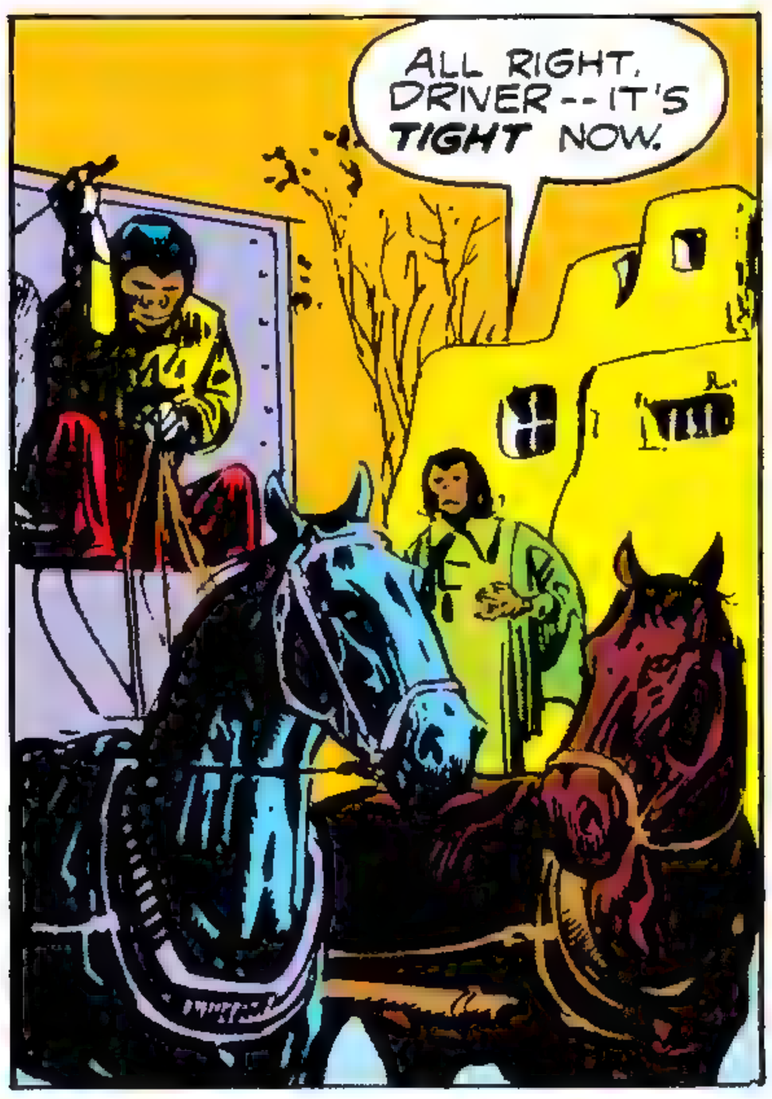

DRIVER--!

WHAT IS IT?
YOU DIDN'T SECURE THE CAGE WELL ENOUGH.
YOU'D BETTER LET ME DOUBLE-LOCK IT.

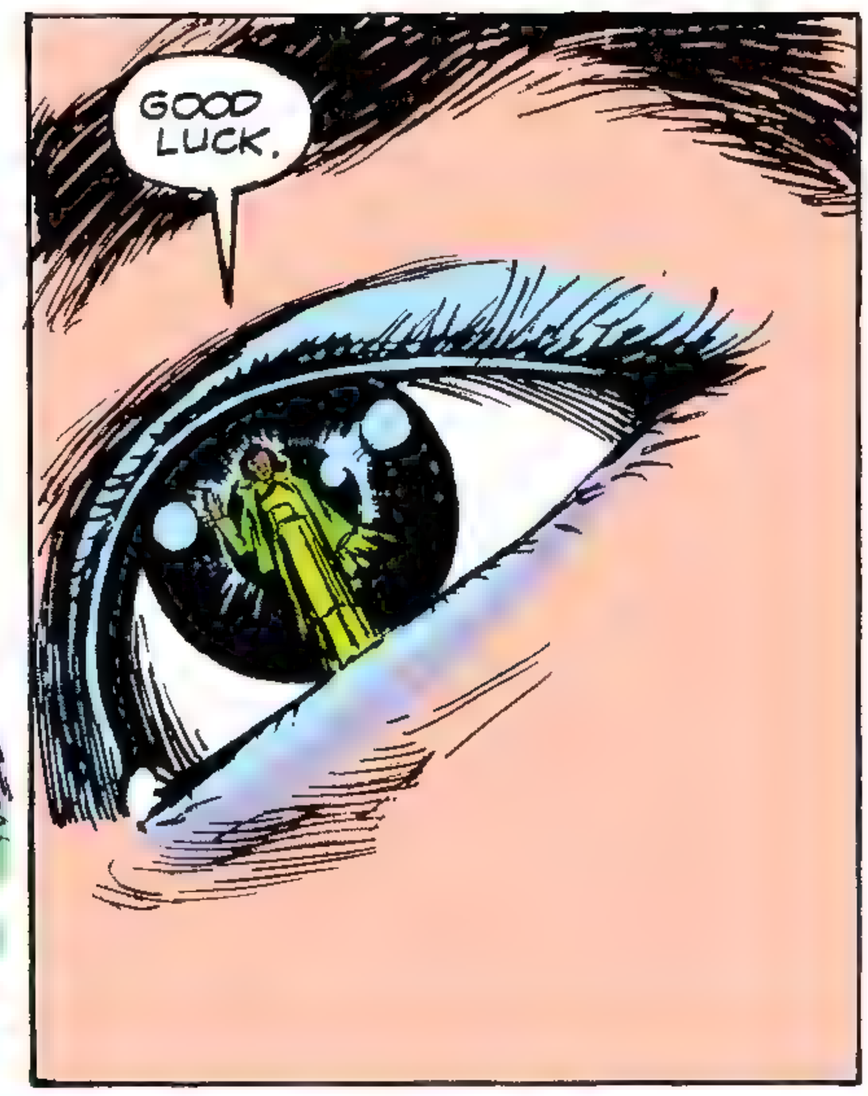
VERY WELL...
BUT HURRY IT UP.

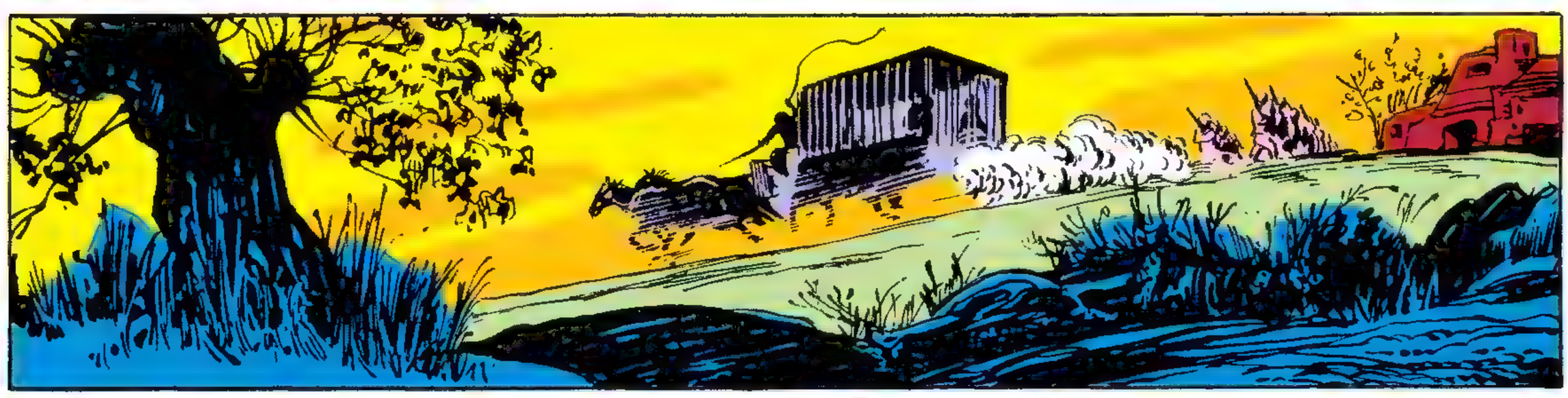

QUIET...

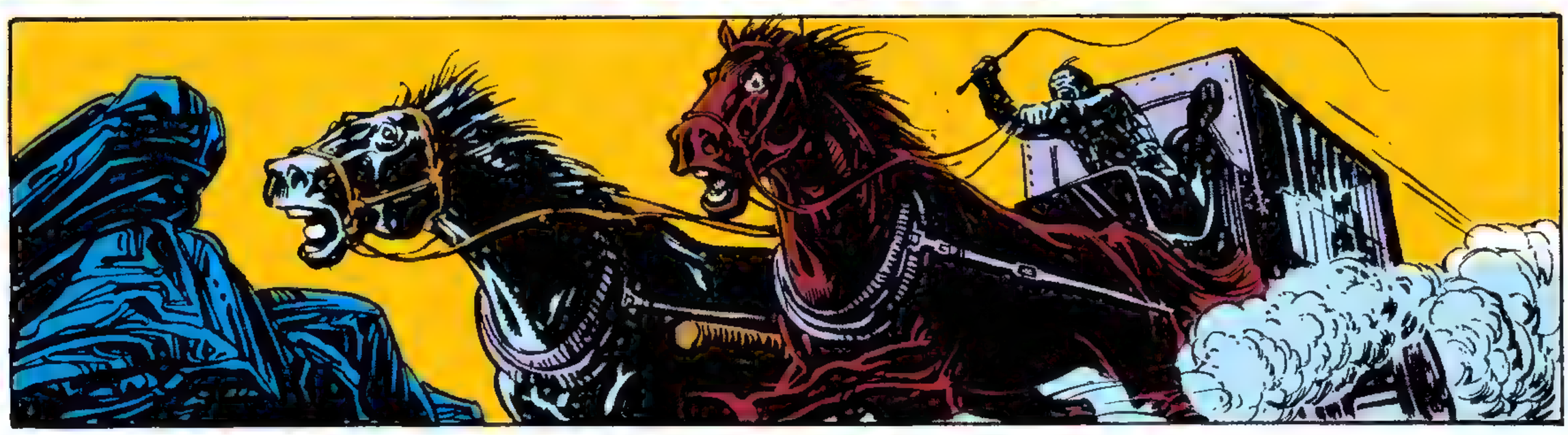

SNAPP

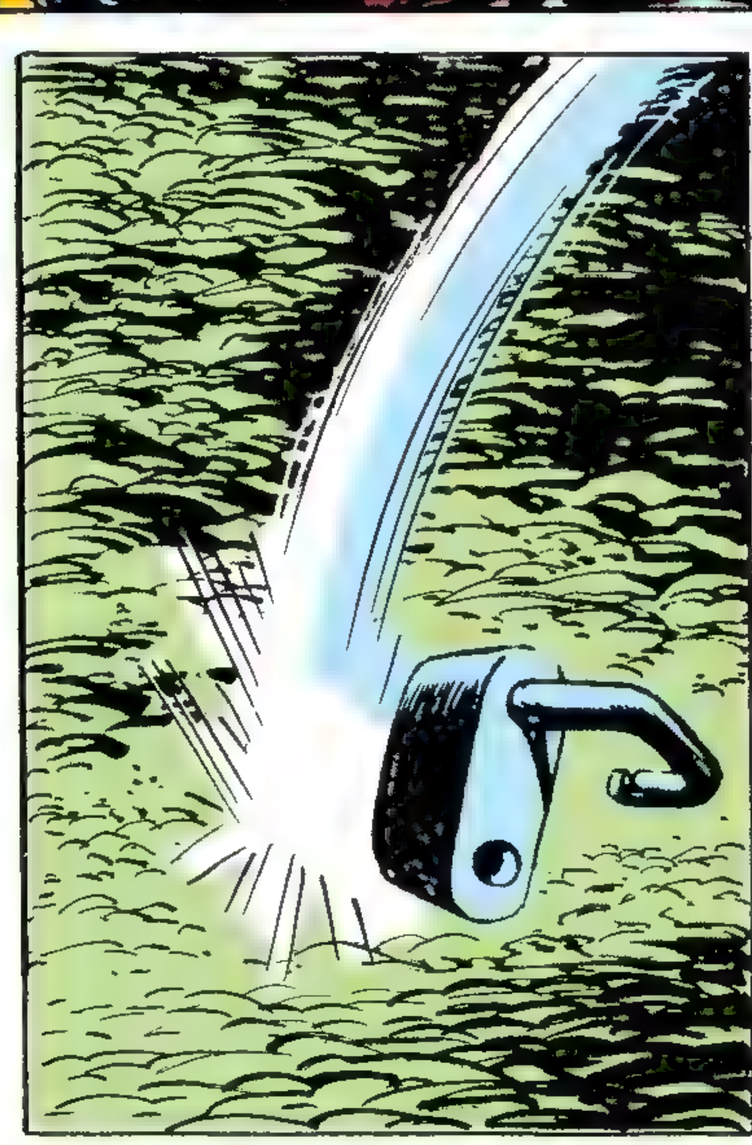

ALL RIGHT, DRIVER -- IT'S TIGHT NOW.

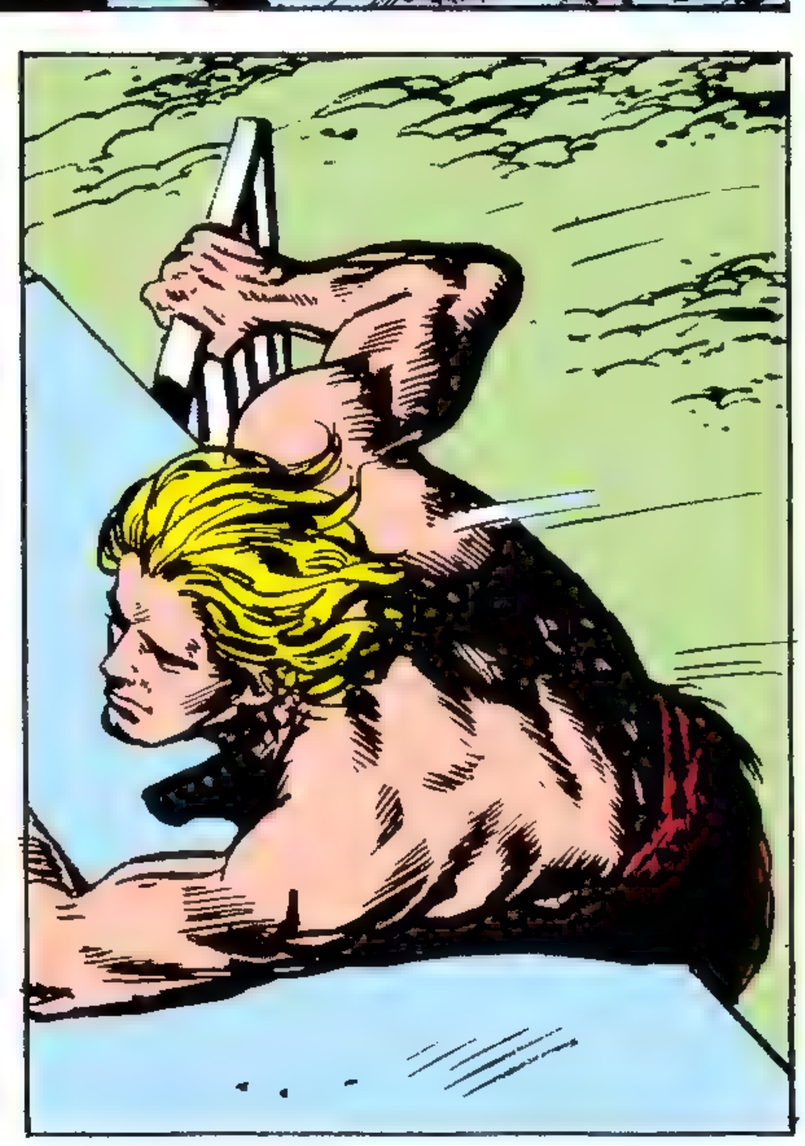
F-TRAK

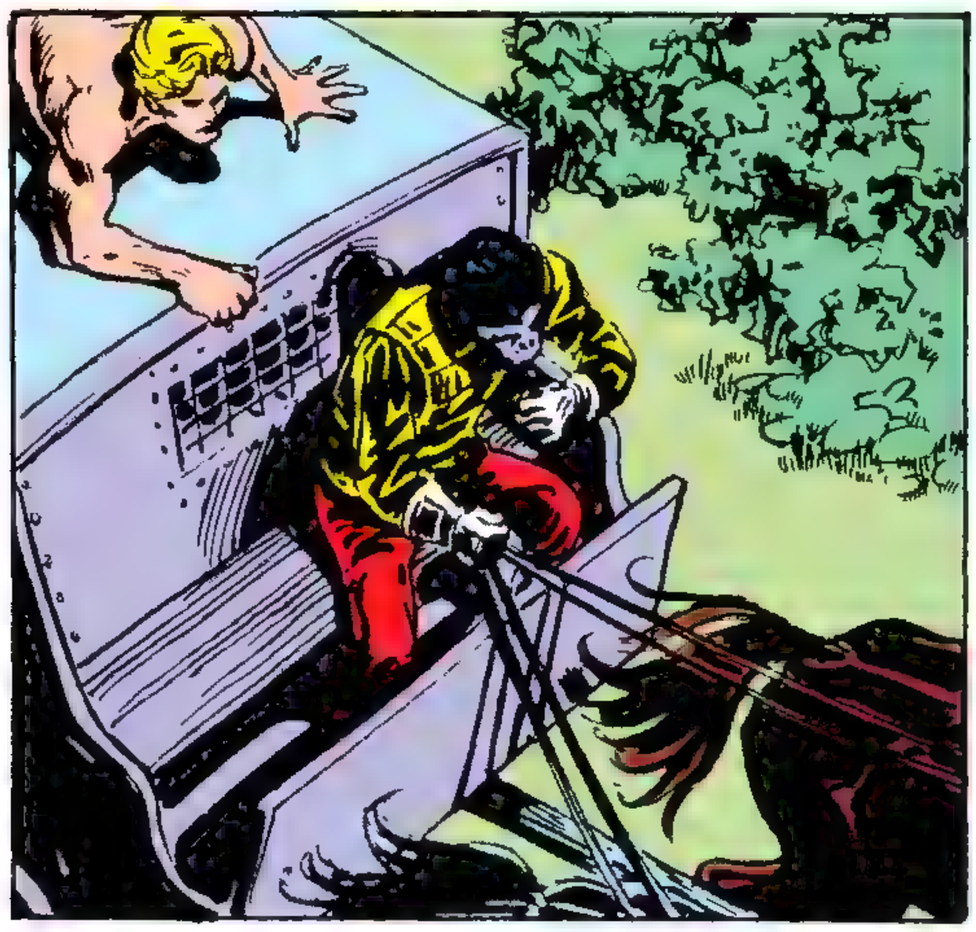

GOOD LUCK.

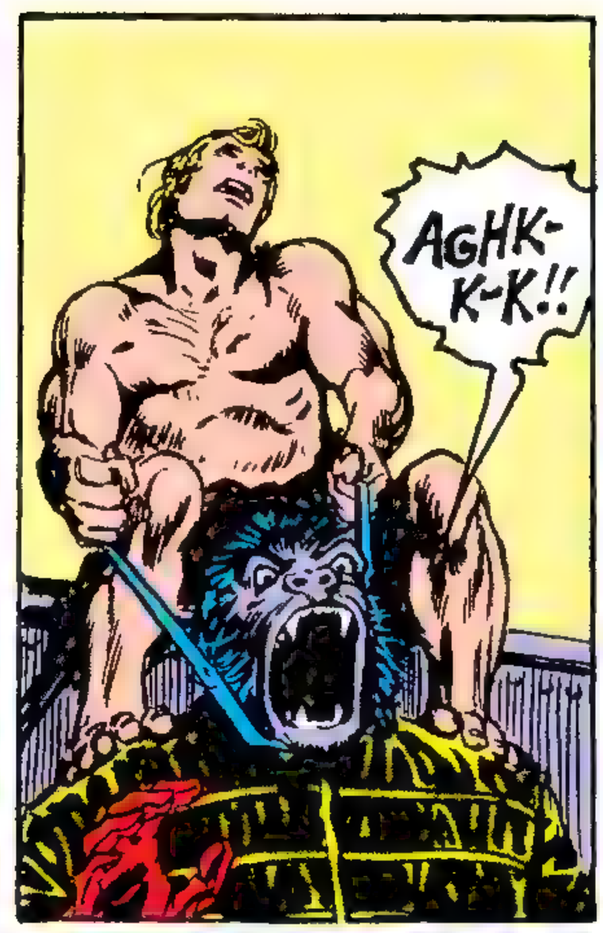


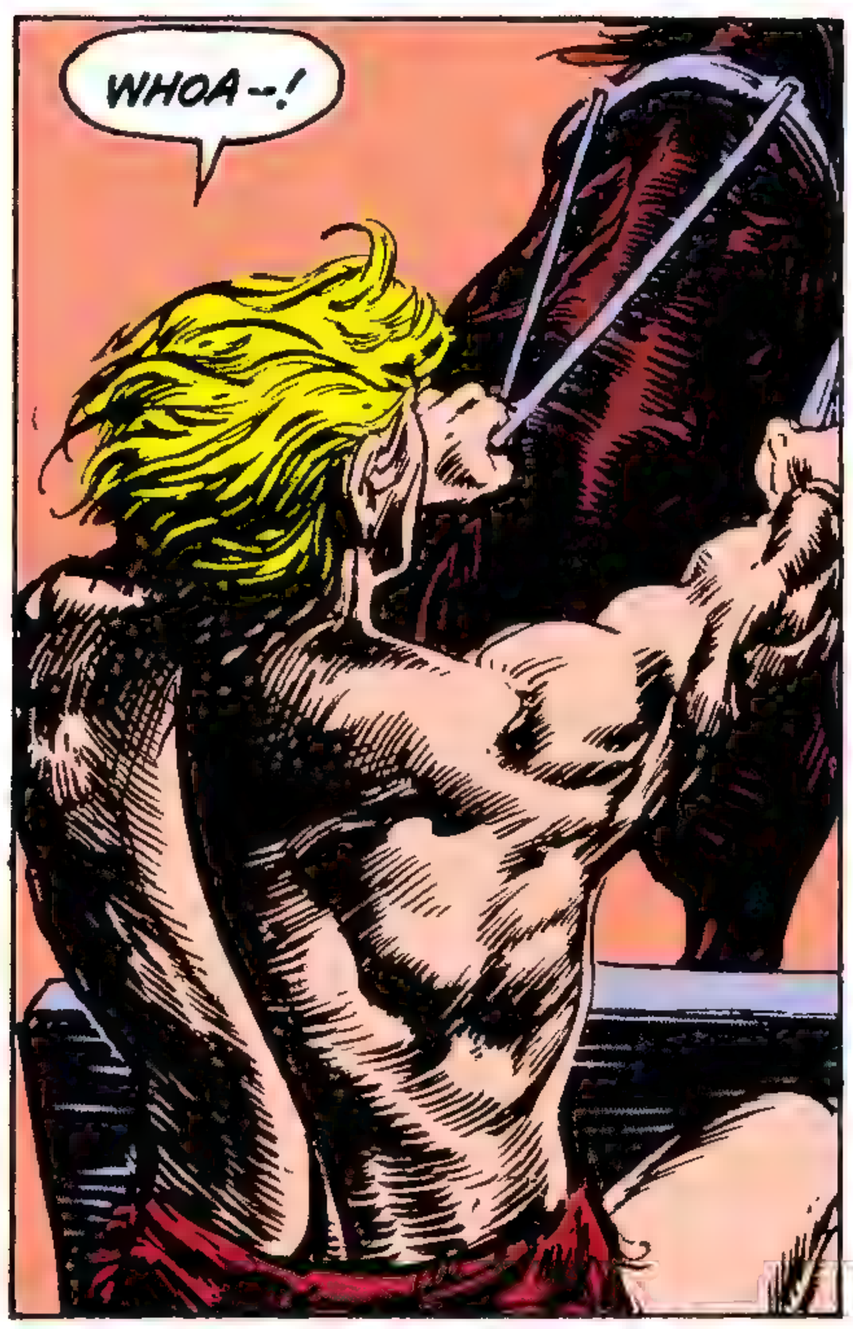


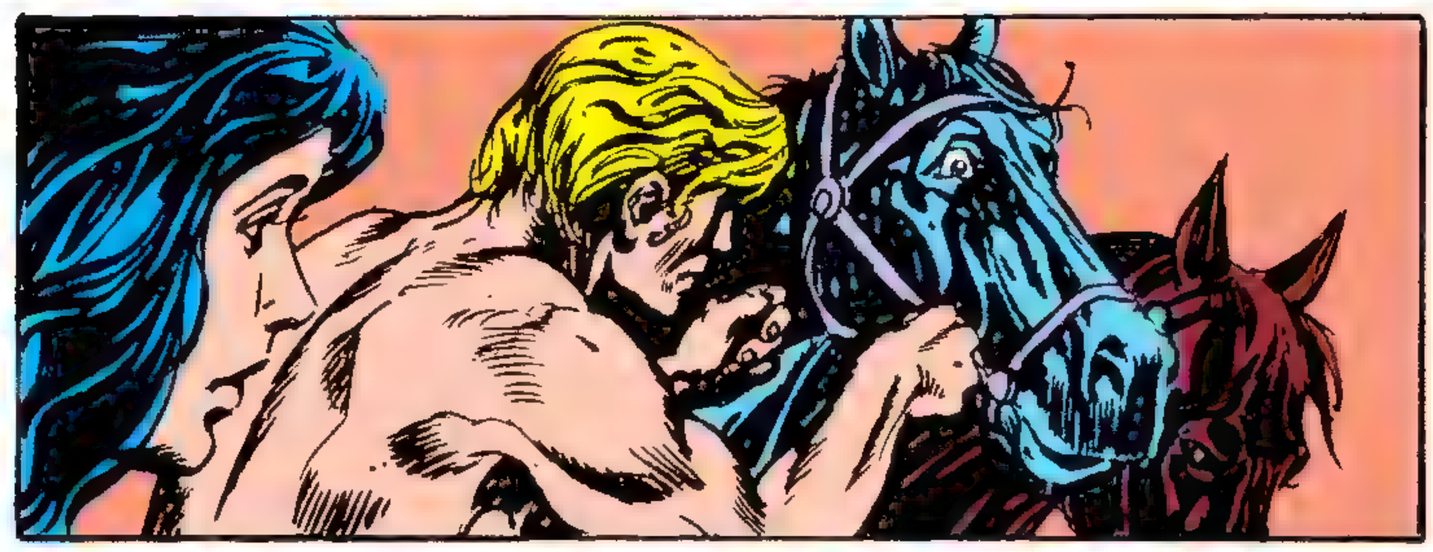






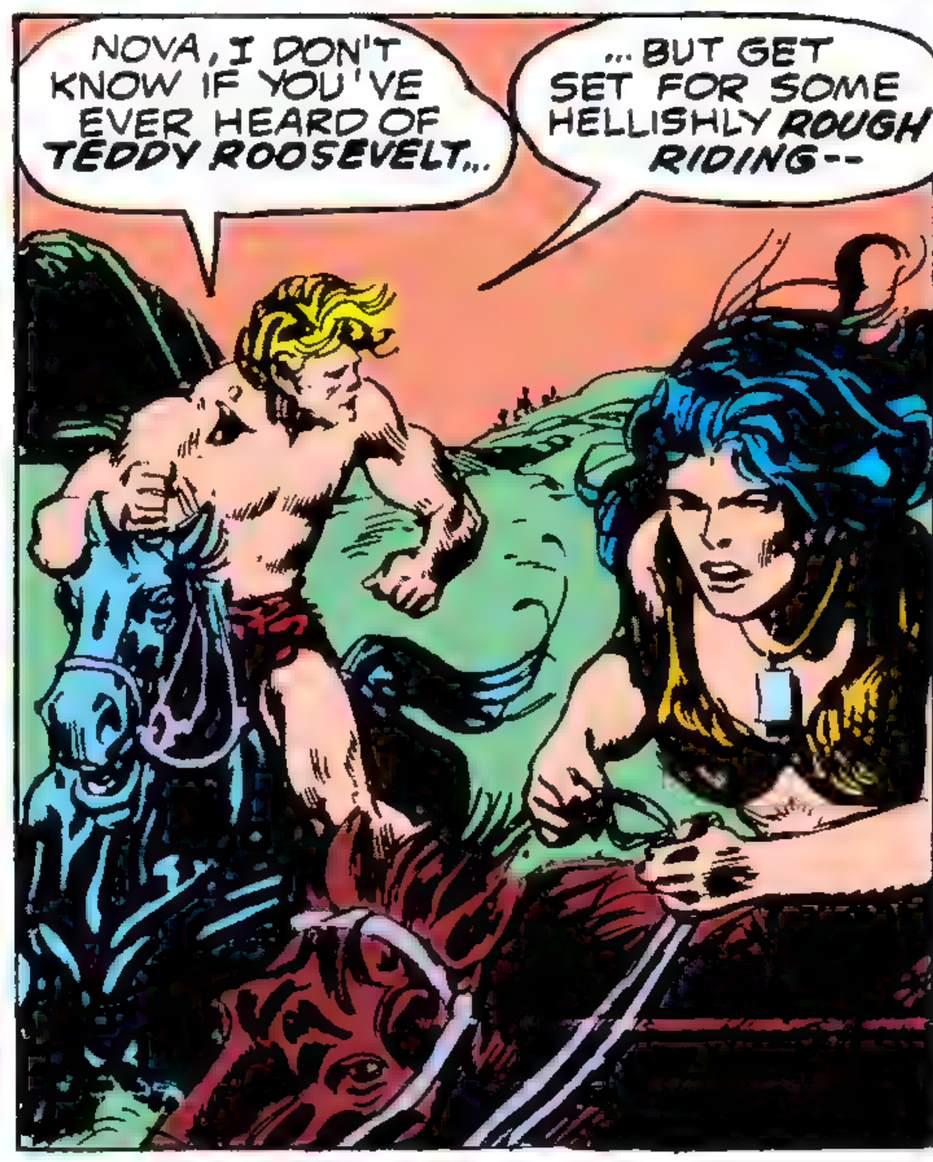

AGHK-K-K!!

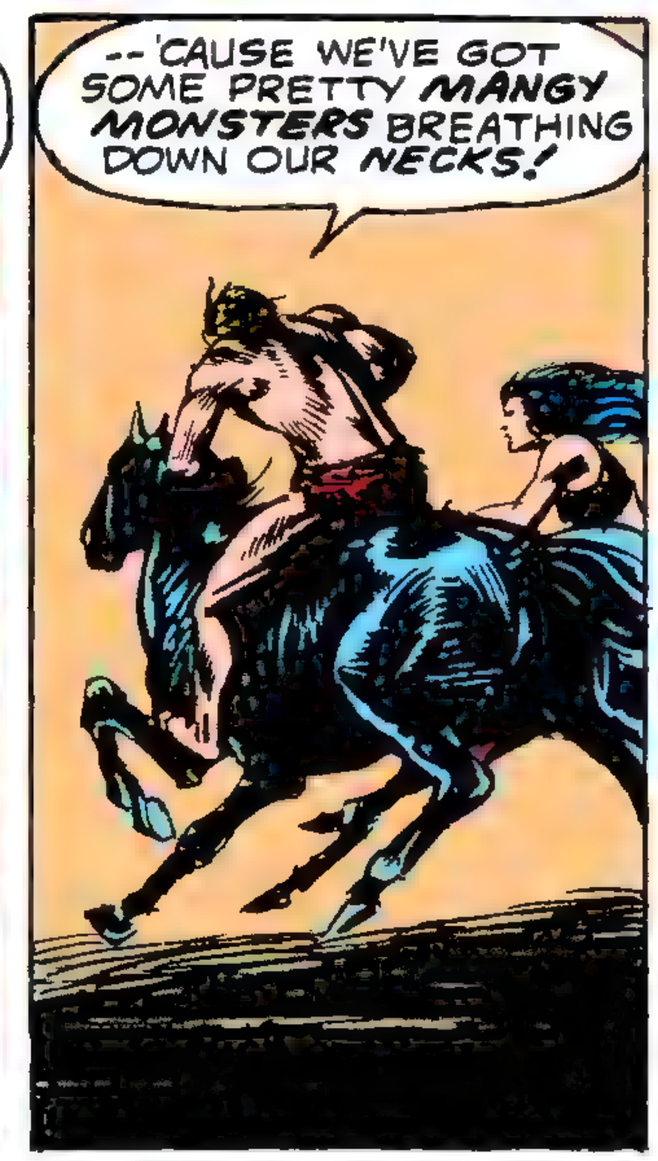

WHOA--!

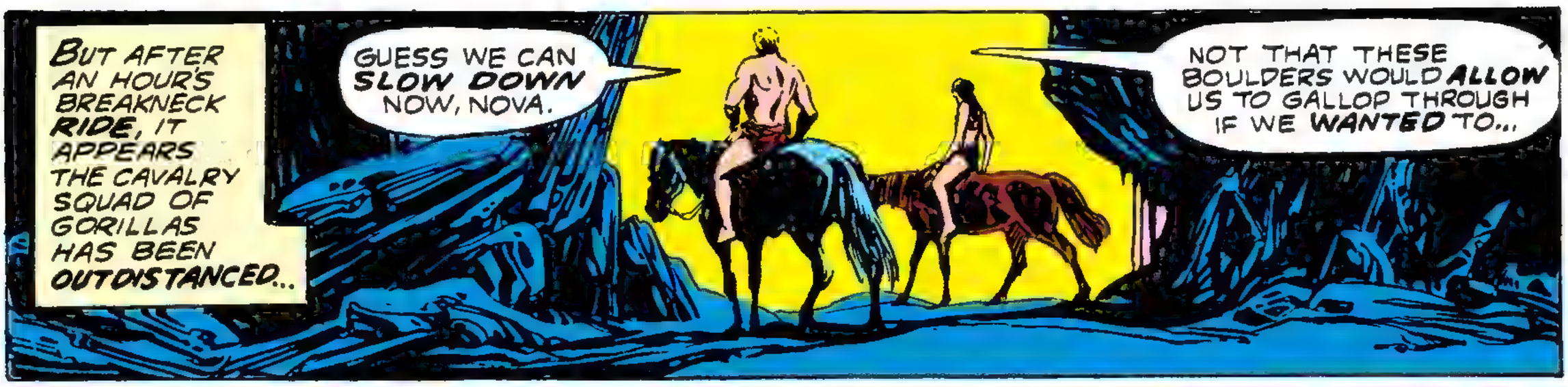


LOOK--!!

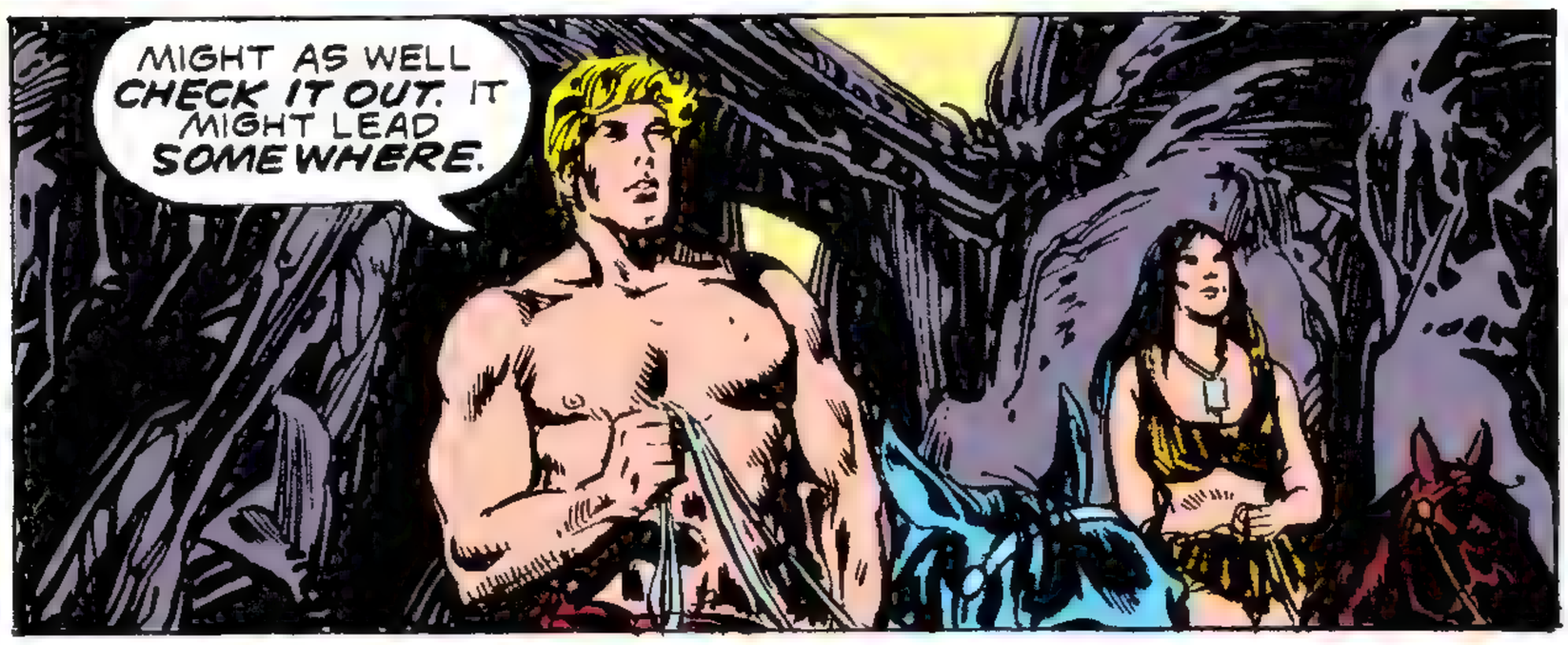
HUMANS -- MAKING AN ESCAPE!!
AFTER THEM!!

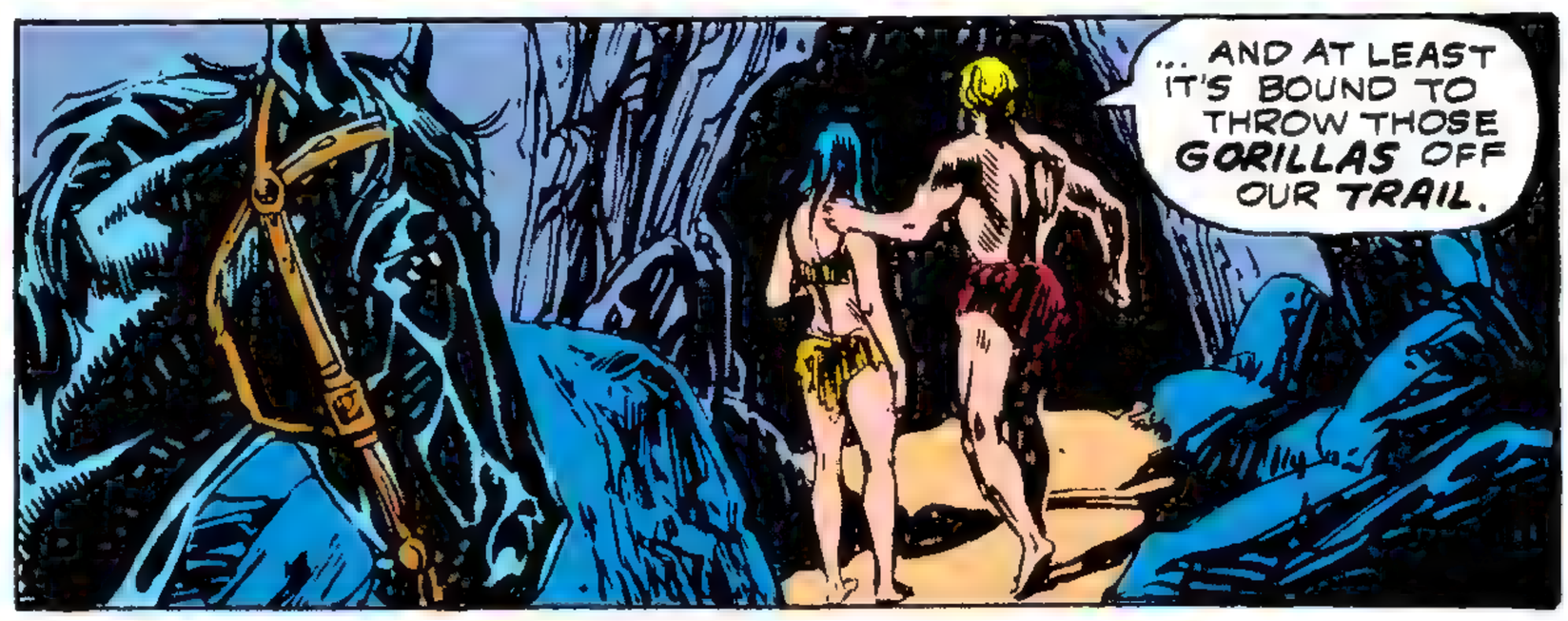

NOVA, I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'VE EVER HEARD OF TEDDY ROOSEVELT...
... BUT GET SET FOR SOME HELLISHLY ROUGH RIDING--


-- 'CAUSE WE'VE GOT SOME PRETTY MANGY MONSTERS BREATHING DOWN OUR NECKS!

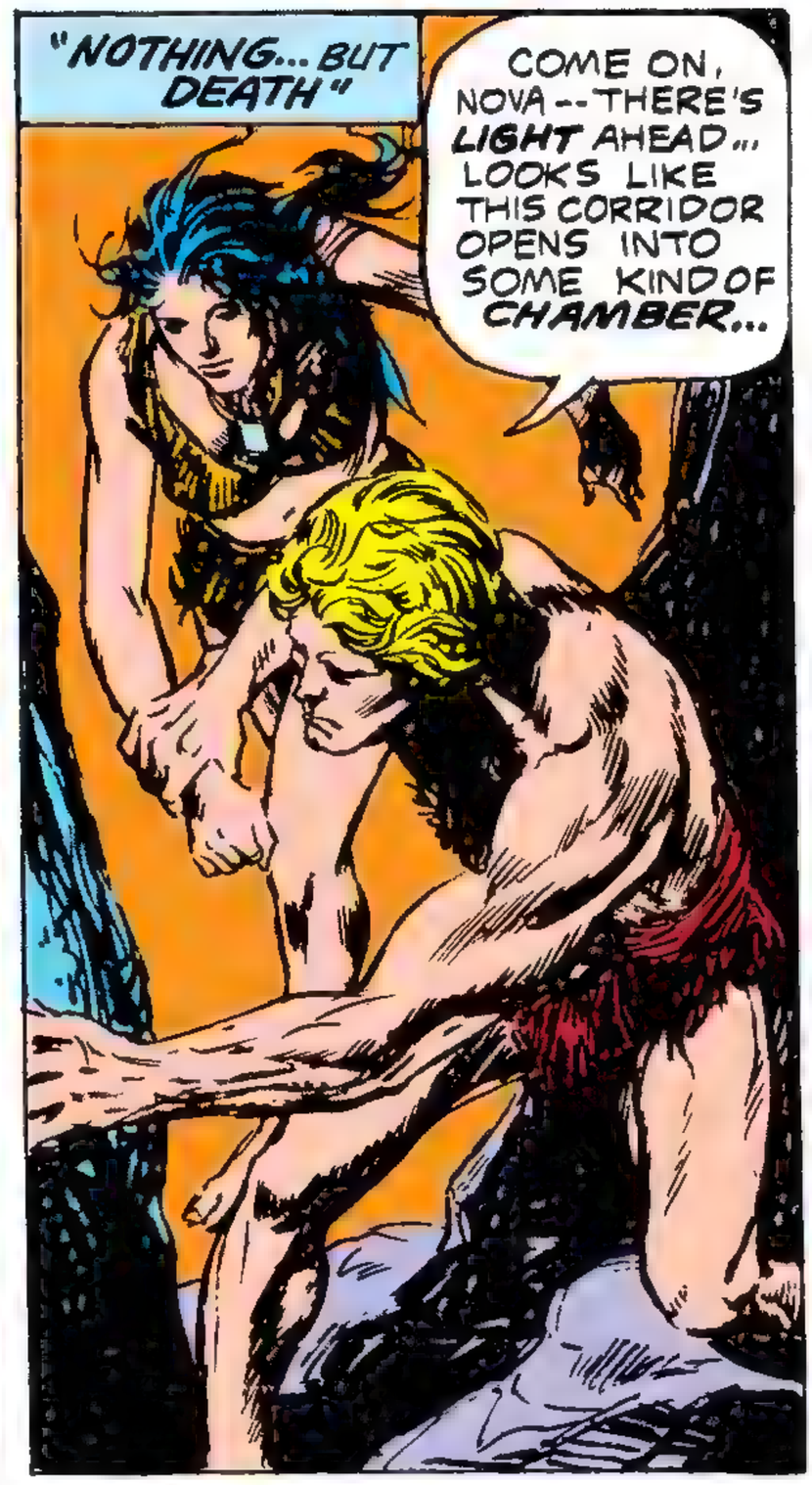

BUT AFTER AN HOUR'S BREAKNECK RIDE, IT APPEARS THE CAVALRY SQUAD OF GORILLAS HAS BEEN OUTDISTANCED...
GUESS WE CAN SLOW DOWN NOW, NOVA.
NOT THAT THESE BOULDERS WOULD ALLOW US TO GALLOP THROUGH IF WE WANTED TO...

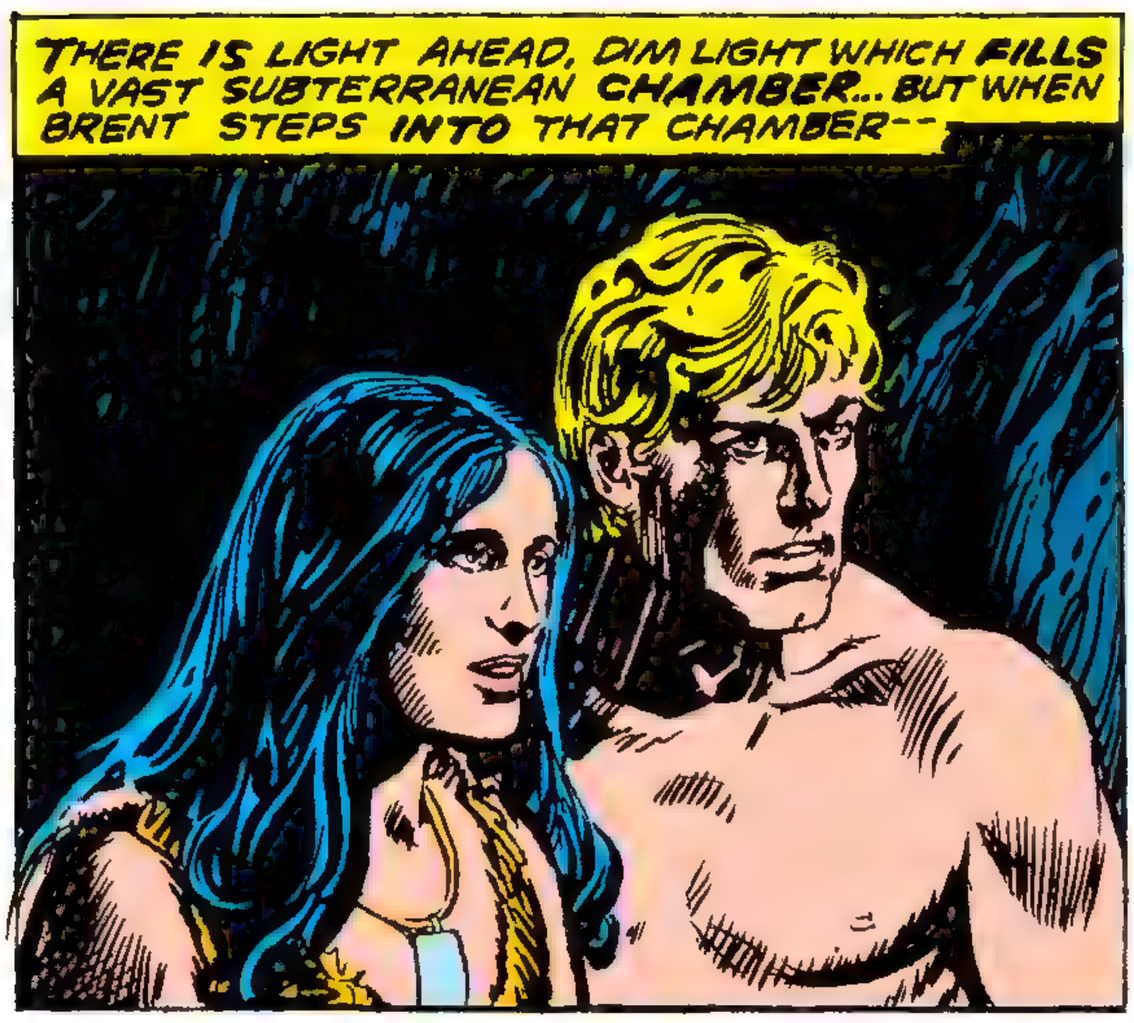
LOOKS LIKE SOME SORT OF CAVE DOWN THERE...


MIGHT AS WELL CHECK IT OUT. IT MIGHT LEAD SOMEWHERE.


... AND AT LEAST IT'S BOUND TO THROW THOSE GORILLAS OFF OUR TRAIL.

CAPTAIN ODO-- ISN'T THIS THE REGION WHERE THE SCOUTS VANISHED?
IT IS.
THEN THE HUMANS-- WHAT WILL THEY FIND IN THAT CAVE...?


"NOTHING... BUT DEATH"
COME ON, NOVA--THERE'S LIGHT AHEAD... LOOKS LIKE THIS CORRIDOR OPENS INTO SOME KIND OF CHAMBER...



SLIVERS OF GRAY LIGHT FILTER THROUGH THE SPLIT CEILING, CORRODED STEEL BEAMS STAND AMONGST GLISTENING STALACTITES. IN THE DISTANCE A HYPNOTIC DRIPPING ECHOES MOCKINGLY.

ANCIENT SIGNS DROOP IN TATTERED EXHAUSTION. METAL RAILS BARELY REFLECT THE MEAGER LIGHT. AND TANGIBLE HORROR FILLS THE VAST CHAMBER.

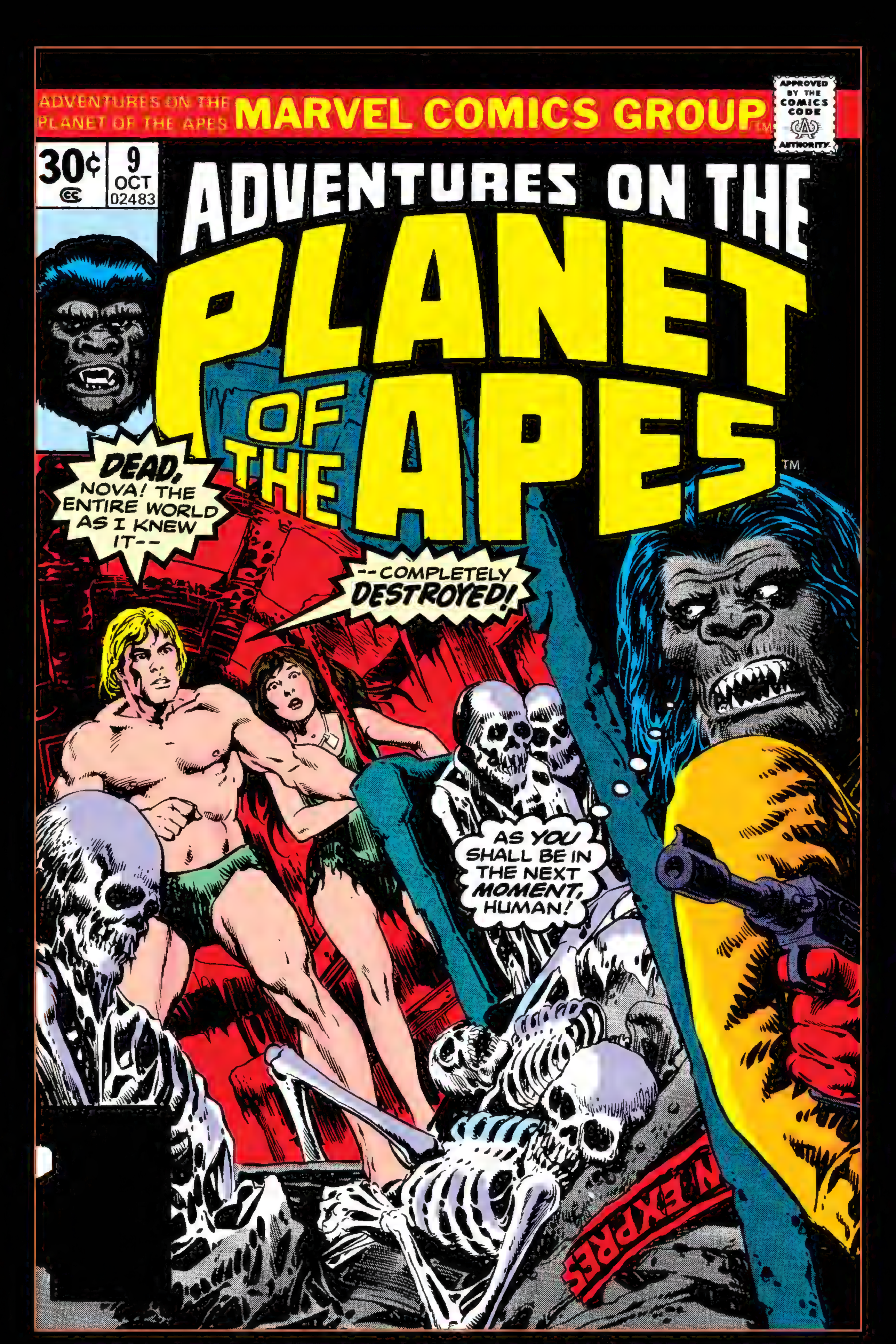
QUEENSBOROUGH PLAZA

A NEW YORK SUBWAY STATION... AFTER 2000 YEARS OF RAVAGING TIME... DESOLATE AND DESTROYED.

THE TANGIBLE HORROR GROWS... AS ASTRONAUT BRENT REALIZES --FULLY REALIZES --THAT HE HAS RETURNED...

... HOME!

NEXT THE NUCLEAR MESSIAH!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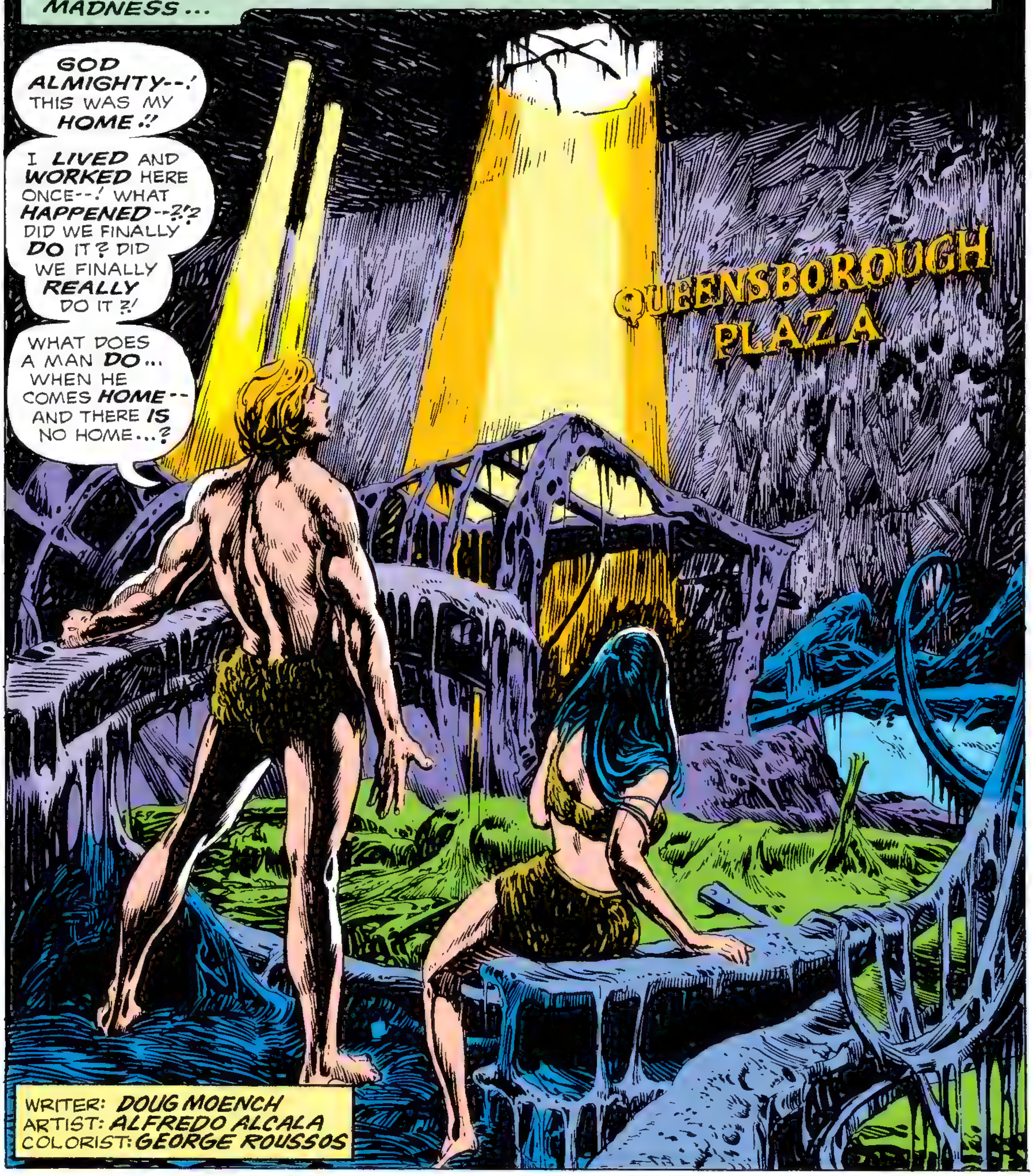
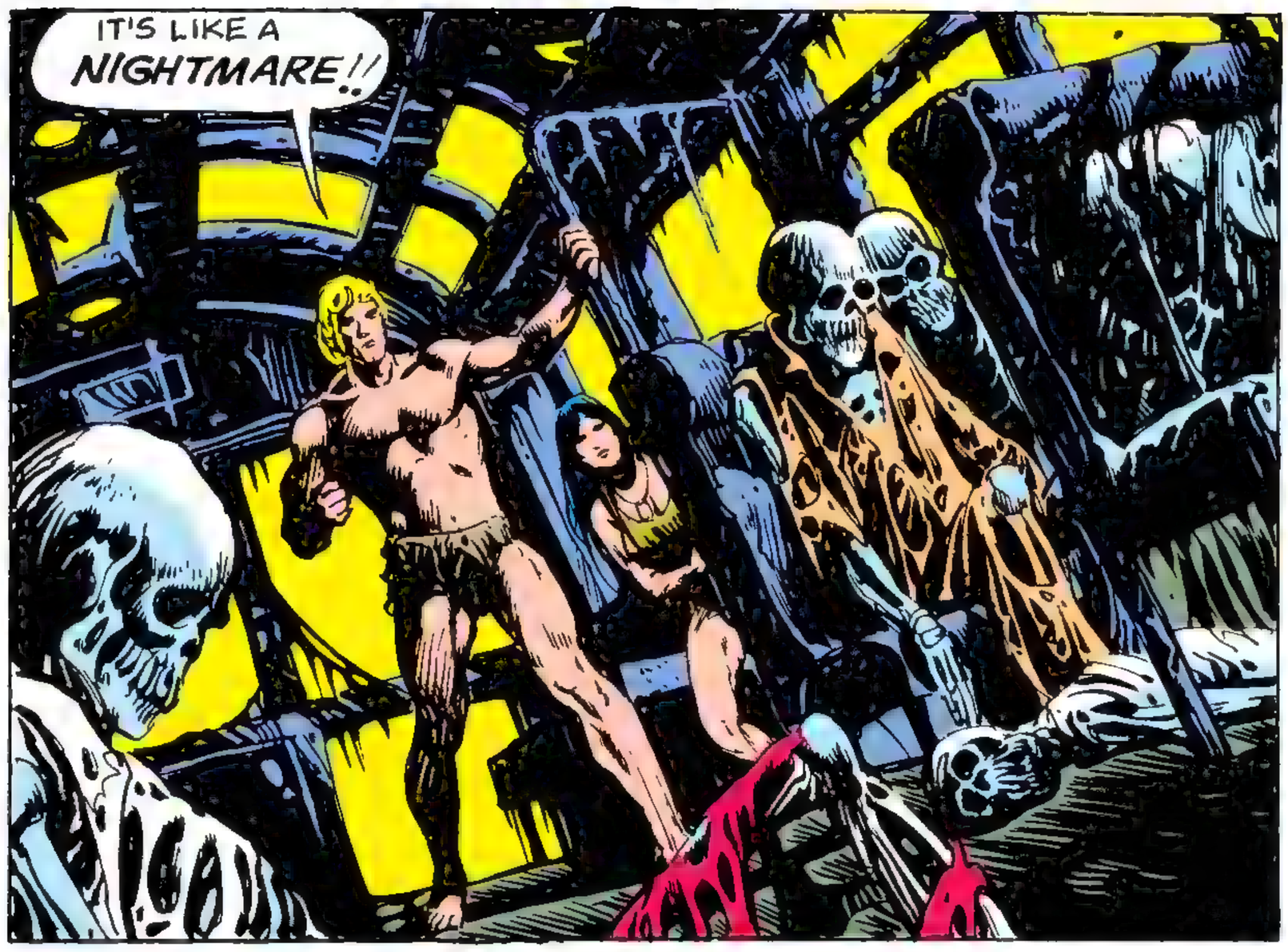
ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES™
DEAD, NOVA! THE ENTIRE WORLD AS I KNEW IT--
--COMPLETELY DESTROYED!
AS YOU SHALL BE IN THE NEXT MOMENT, HUMAN!
NEXPRESS

STAN LEE PRESENTS PLANET OF THE APES!™

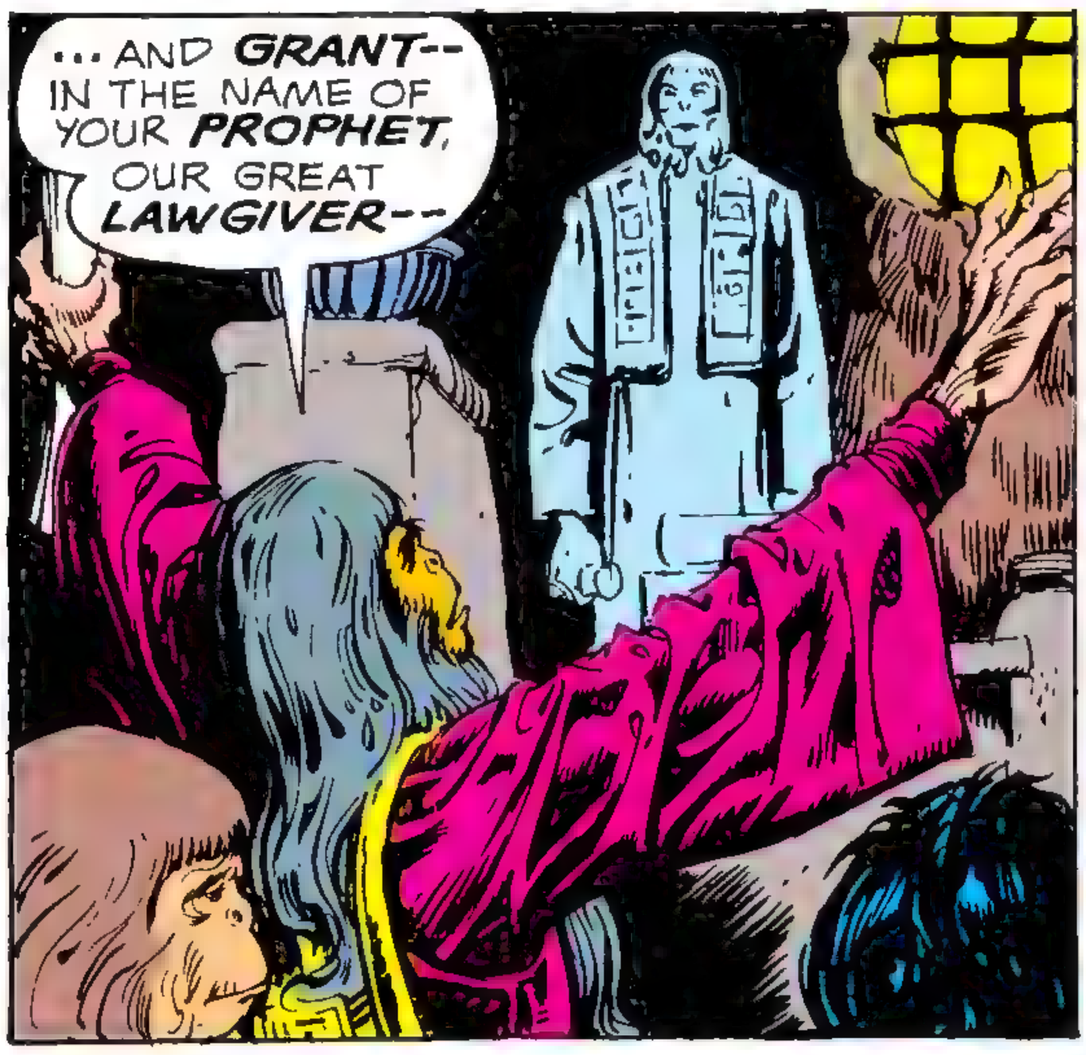
THE WARHEAD MESSIAH

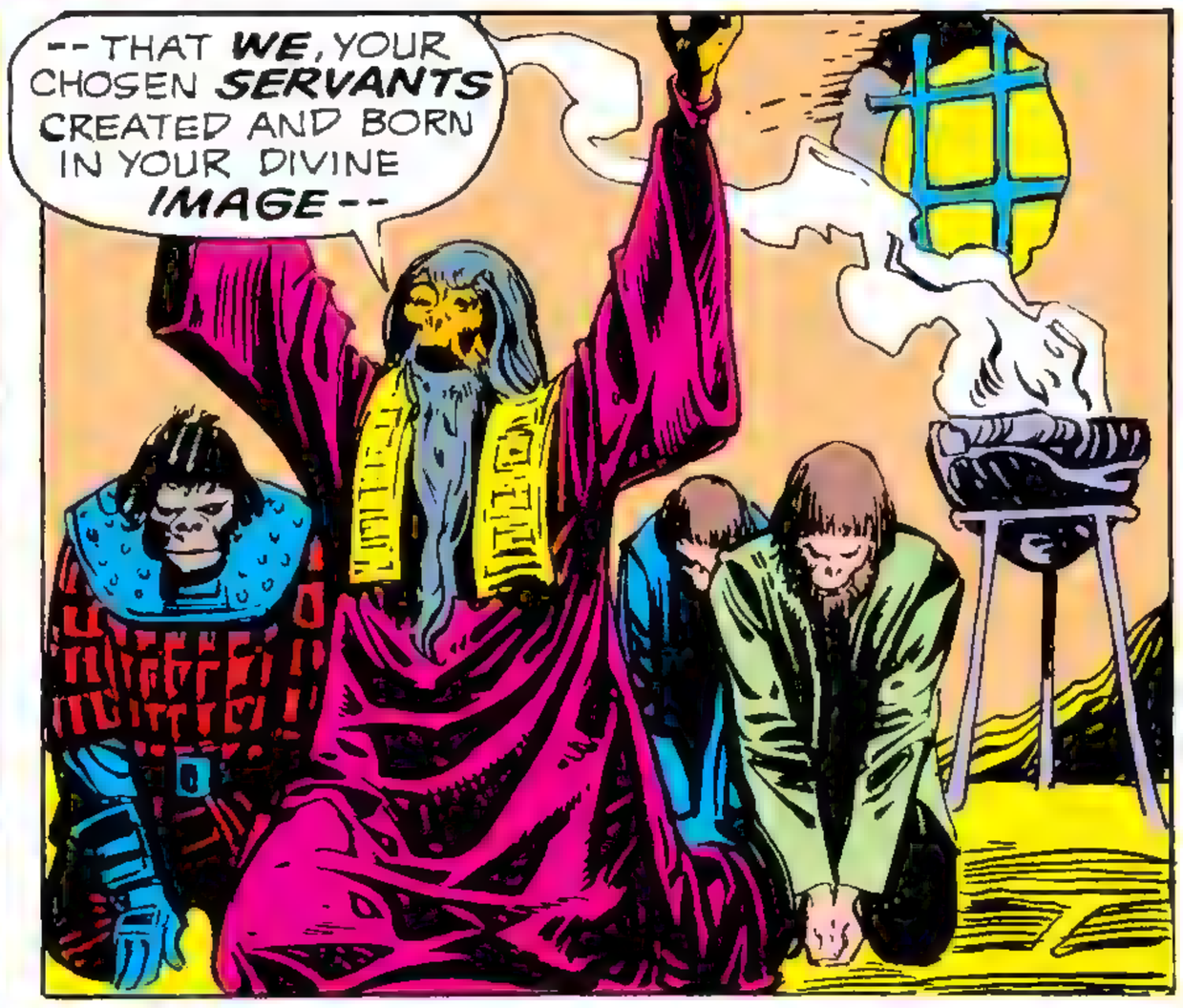
SEARCHING FOR THE ASTRONAUT **TAYLOR**, LOST DURING A PREVIOUS SPACE LAUNCH AND EXPEDITION, SHIP'S MEDIC BRENT HAS INSTEAD FOUND THE CRUMBLING REMNANTS OF **MADNESS**...




IT'S LIKE A NIGHTMARE!!

THE TEMPLE IN THE CITY OF THE APES...
O GOD, WE PRAY YOU, BLESS OUR GREAT ARMY AND ITS SUPREME COMMANDER ON THE EVE OF A HOLY WAR UNDERTAKEN FOR YOUR SAKE...

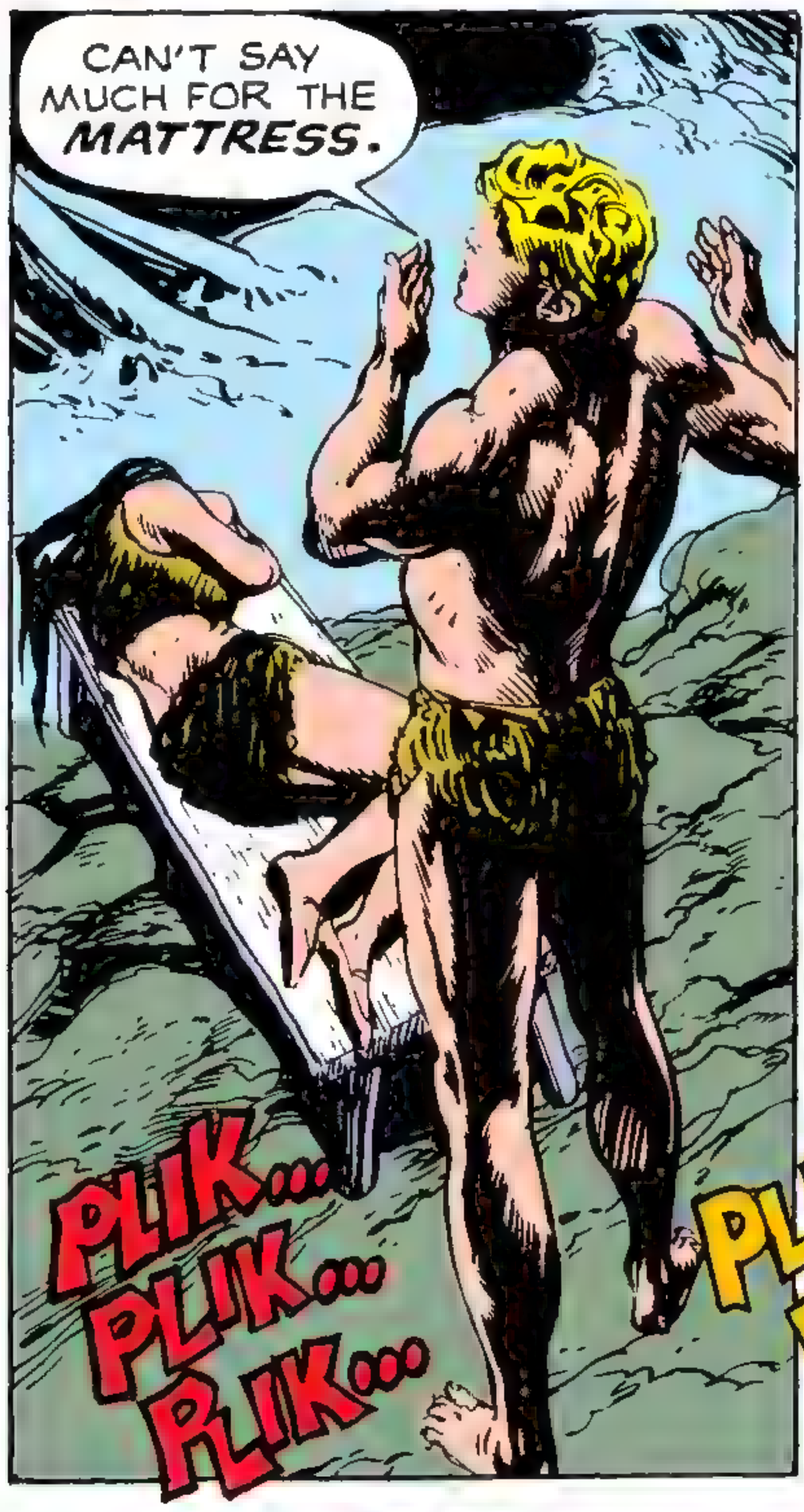

...AND GRANT-- IN THE NAME OF YOUR PROPHET, OUR GREAT LAWGIVER--


--THAT WE, YOUR CHOSEN SERVANTS CREATED AND BORN IN YOUR DIVINE IMAGE--

--MAY ASPIRE MORE PERFECTLY TO THAT SPIRITUAL GODLINESS AND BODILY BEAUTY WHICH YOU, IN YOUR INFINITE MERCY, HAVE THOUGHT FIT TO DENY TO OUR BRUTISH--

--ENEMIES.
SO BE IT.

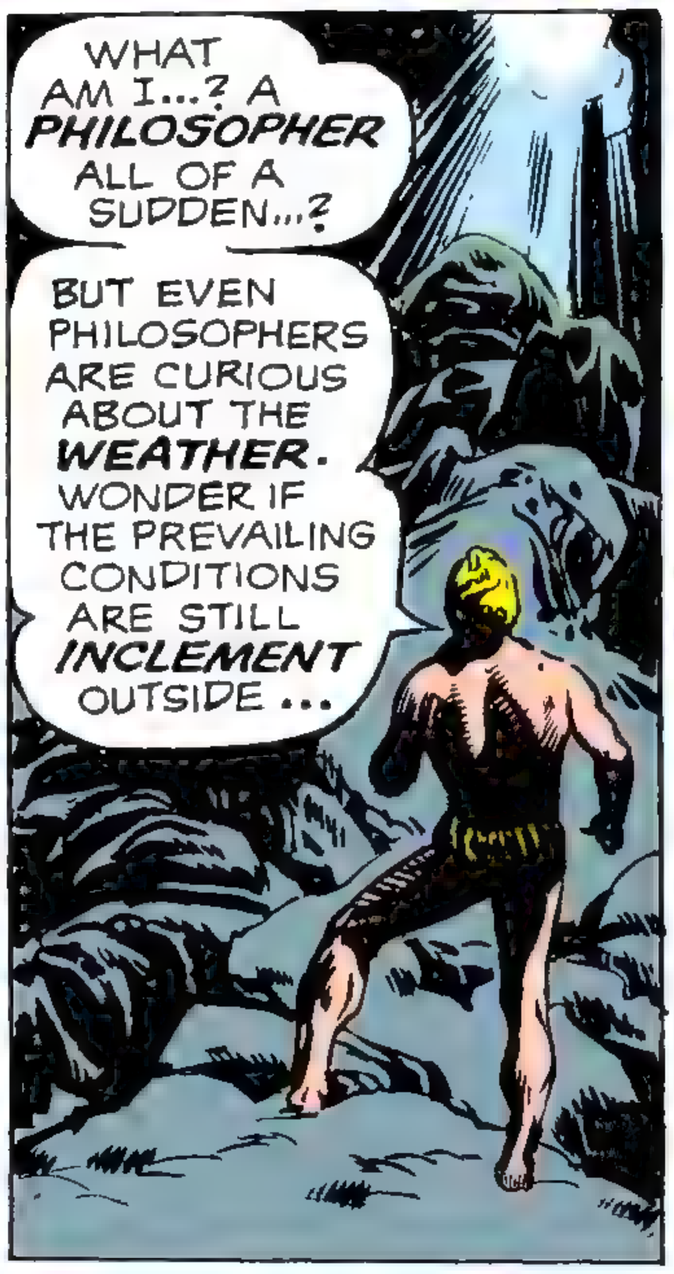
PLIK...
PLIK


CAN'T SAY MUCH FOR THE MATTRESS.
PLIK...
PLIK...
PLIK...

PLIK...
PLIK...
PLIK...
PLIK...

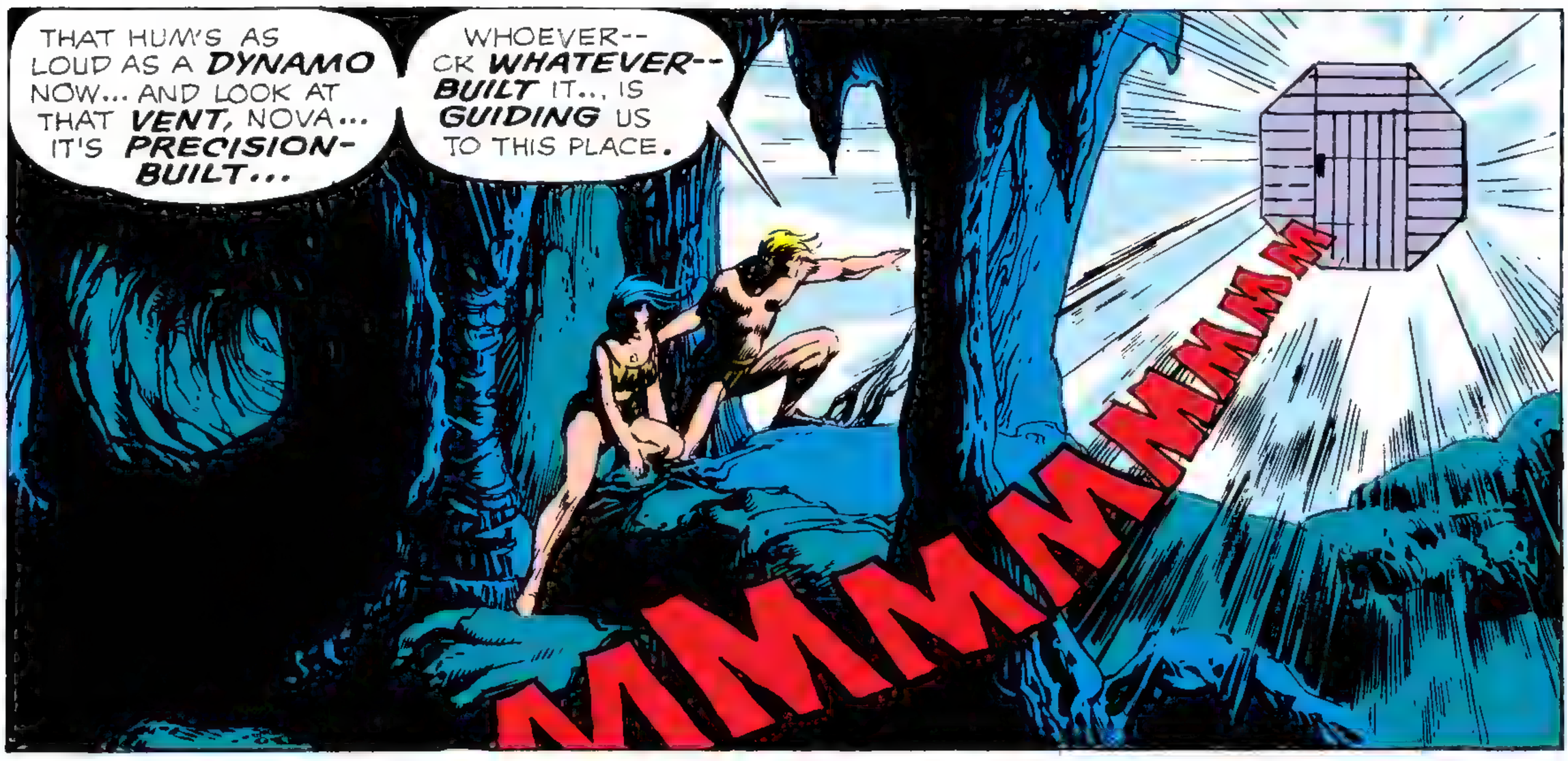
I WONDER... ARE YOU WHAT WE WERE BEFORE WE LEARNED TO TALK AND MADE FOOLS OF OURSELVES...?
DID ANY GOOD EVER COME OF TALKING... ROUND ALL THOSE VAST TABLES...?

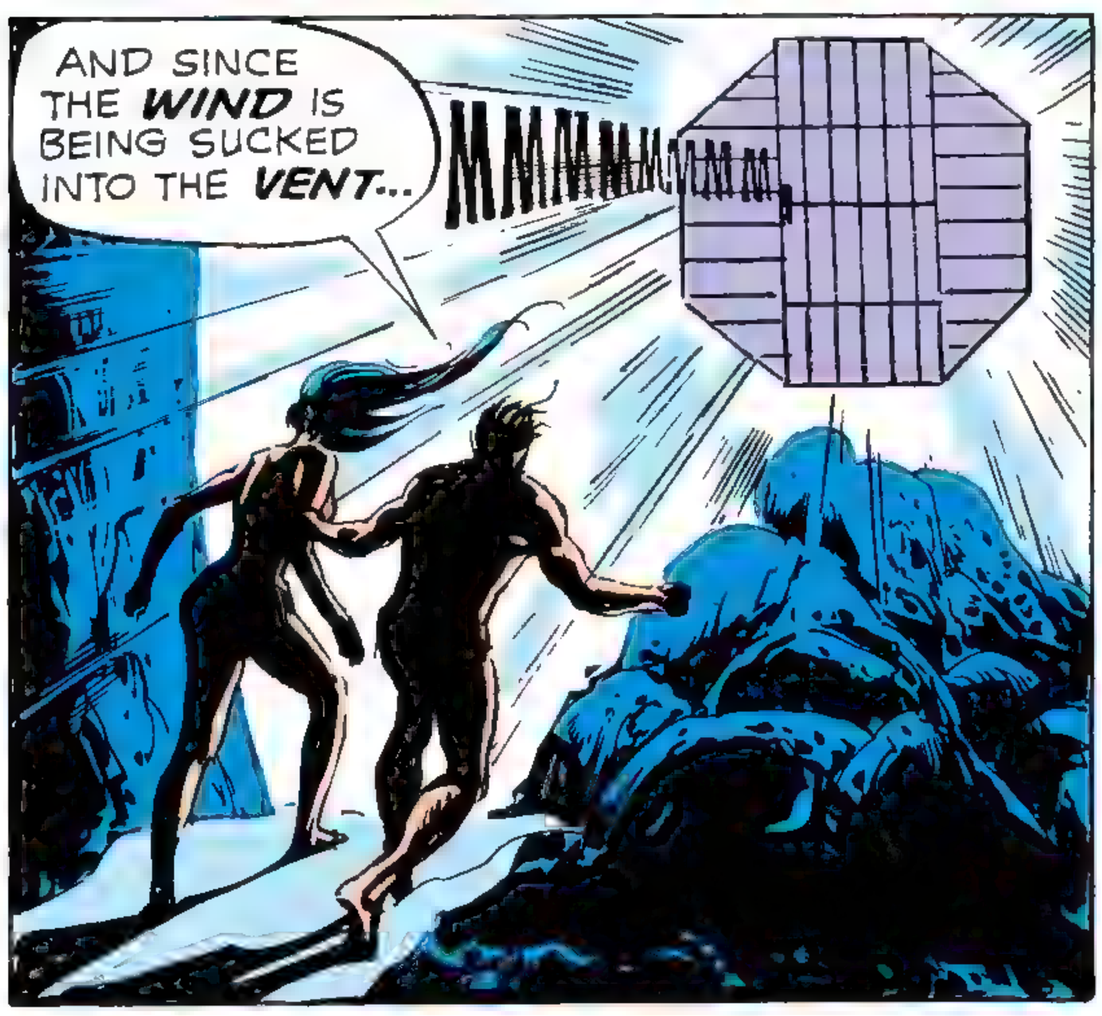
DID APES MAKE WAR WHEN THEY WERE STILL DUMB?
DID MEN--?

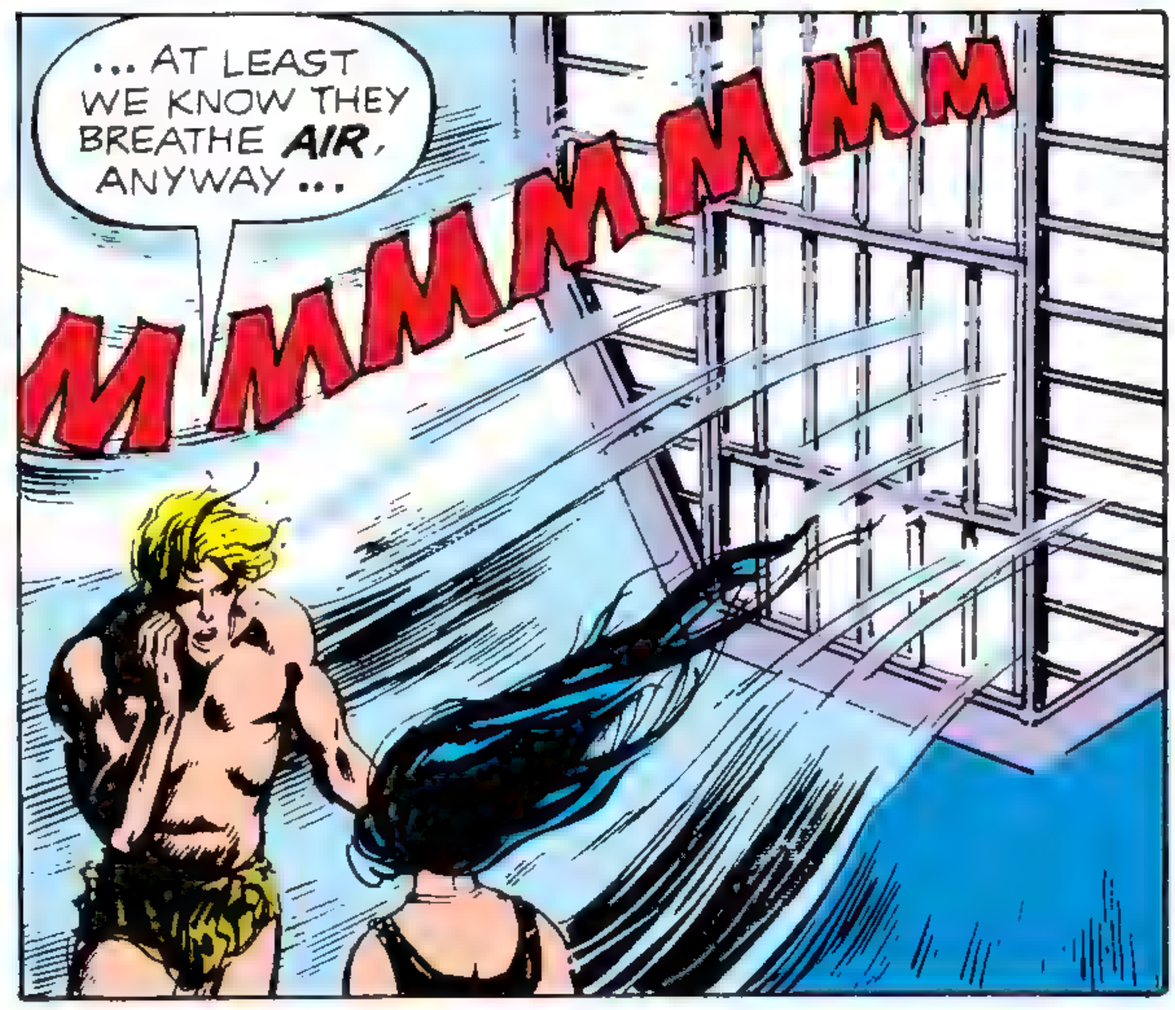

WHAT AM I...? A PHILOSOPHER ALL OF A SUDDEN...?
BUT EVEN PHILOSOPHERS ARE CURIOUS ABOUT THE WEATHER. WONDER IF THE PREVAILING CONDITIONS ARE STILL INCLEMENT OUTSIDE...

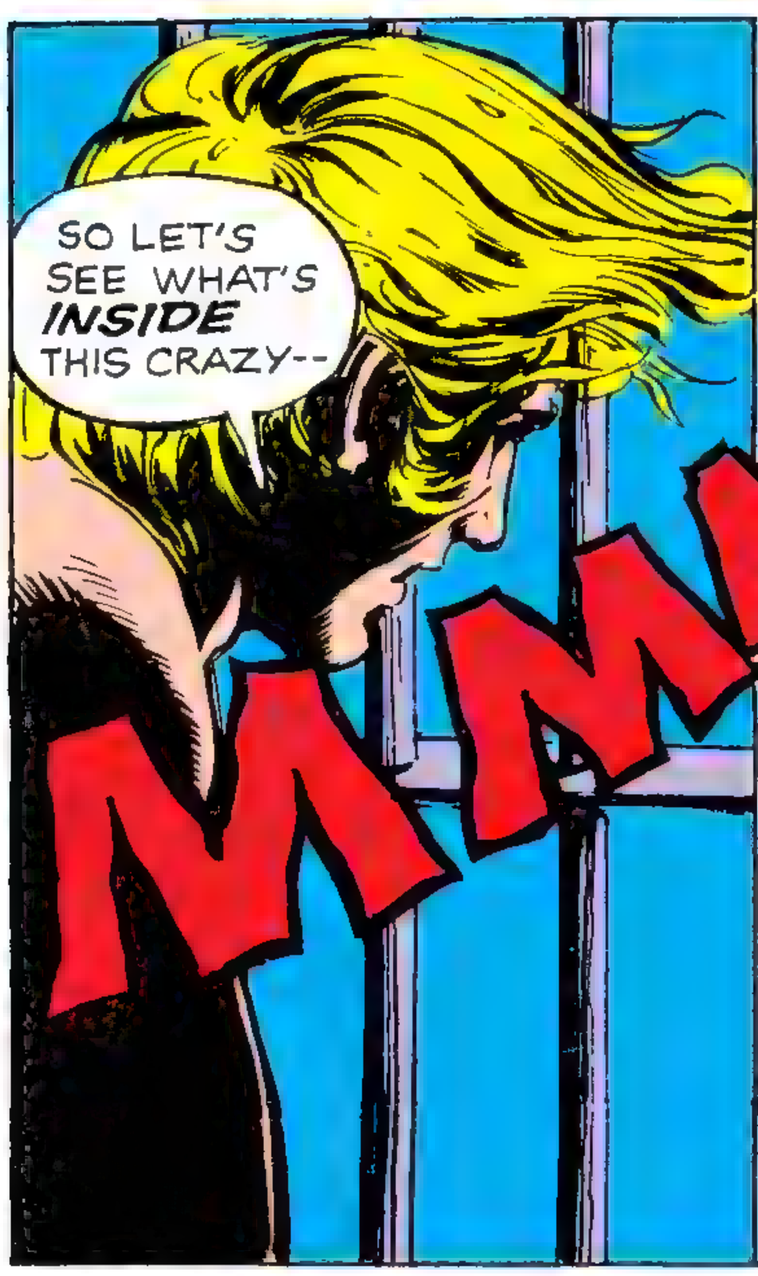
--AND I SAY THE SERGEANT'S GONE CRAZY--.'NO ONE'S EVER GONE IN THERE TO COME OUT AND TELL ABOUT IT...
...AND NOW HE WANTS US TO GO INSIDE AND PUT OUR LIVES IN JEOPARDY JUST TO CHASE TWO HUMANS WHO ARE ALREADY DEAD!

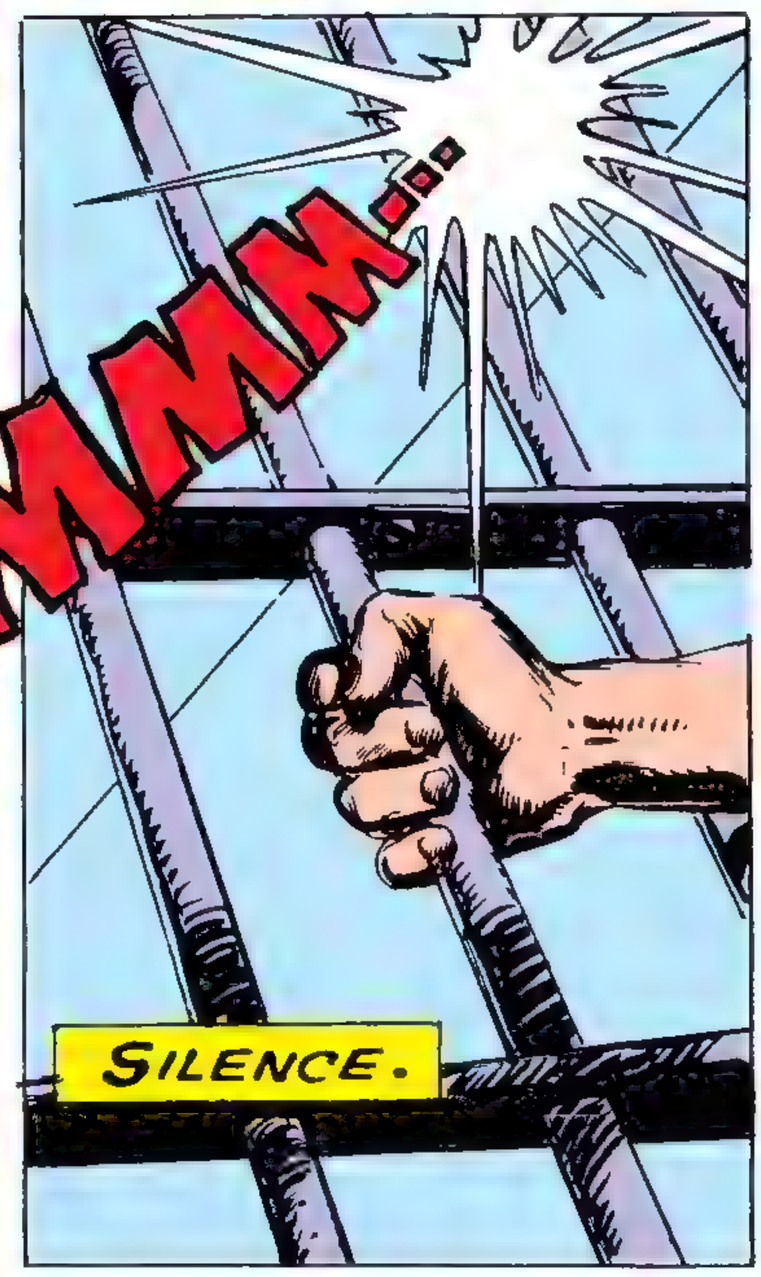
NOVA-- WAKE UP.!
THEY MIGHT COME IN HERE AFTER US--!
WE'VE GOT TO KEEP MOVING...
COME ON... DOWN YOU GO...
NOW, ALL WE HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT IS WHAT'S AT THE OTHER END OF THIS TUNNEL...
MMMMMMMMMM
WAIT A MINUTE--!
THAT FAINT HUM...
MMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM
YOU HEAR IT, TOO--!
COME ON-- DEEPER INTO THE TUNNEL...
IT'S GETTING LOUDER--!
YES-- WE'VE GOT TO FOLLOW IT...
WE'LL USE IT AS A THREAD-- A SONIC THREAD TO LEAD US OUT OF HERE...
...OR AT LEAST TO THE BIGGEST BUMBLEBEE ON RECORD!

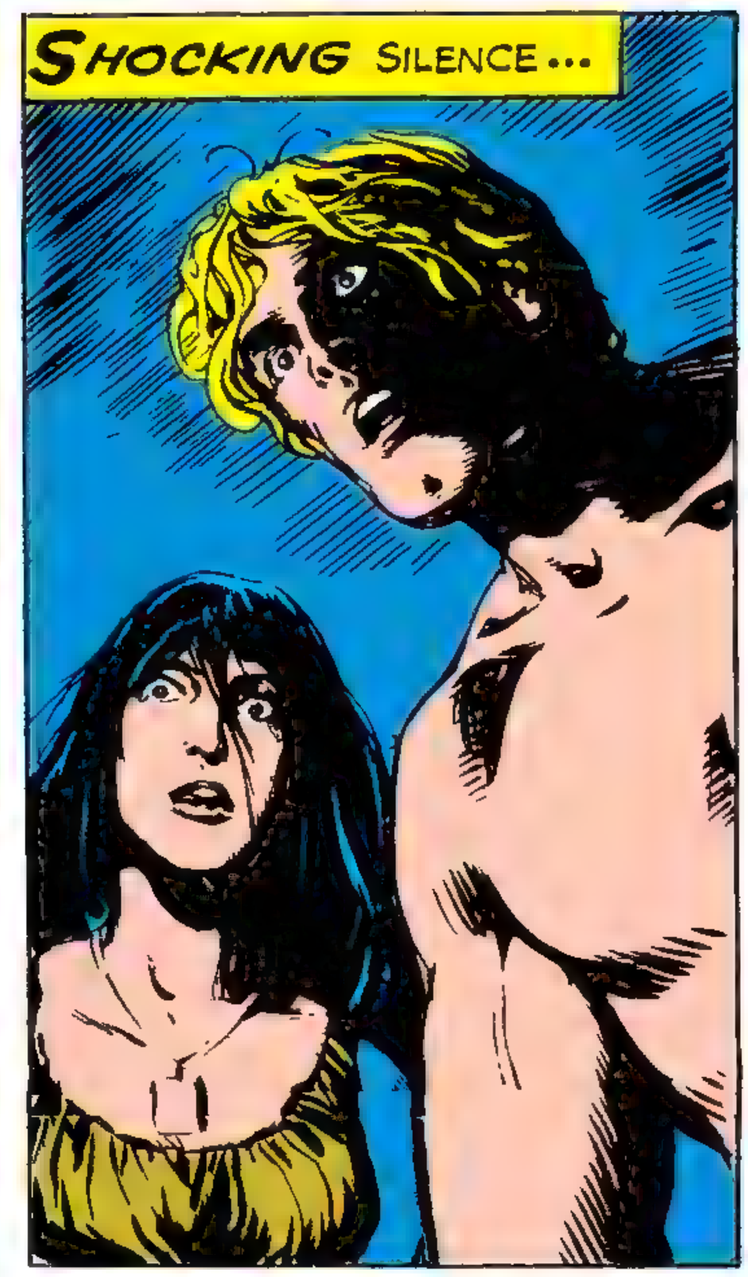

THAT HUM'S AS LOUD AS A DYNAMO NOW... AND LOOK AT THAT VENT, NOVA... IT'S PRECISION-BUILT...
WHOEVER-- OR WHATEVER-- BUILT IT... IS GUIDING US TO THIS PLACE.
MMMMMMMMMM

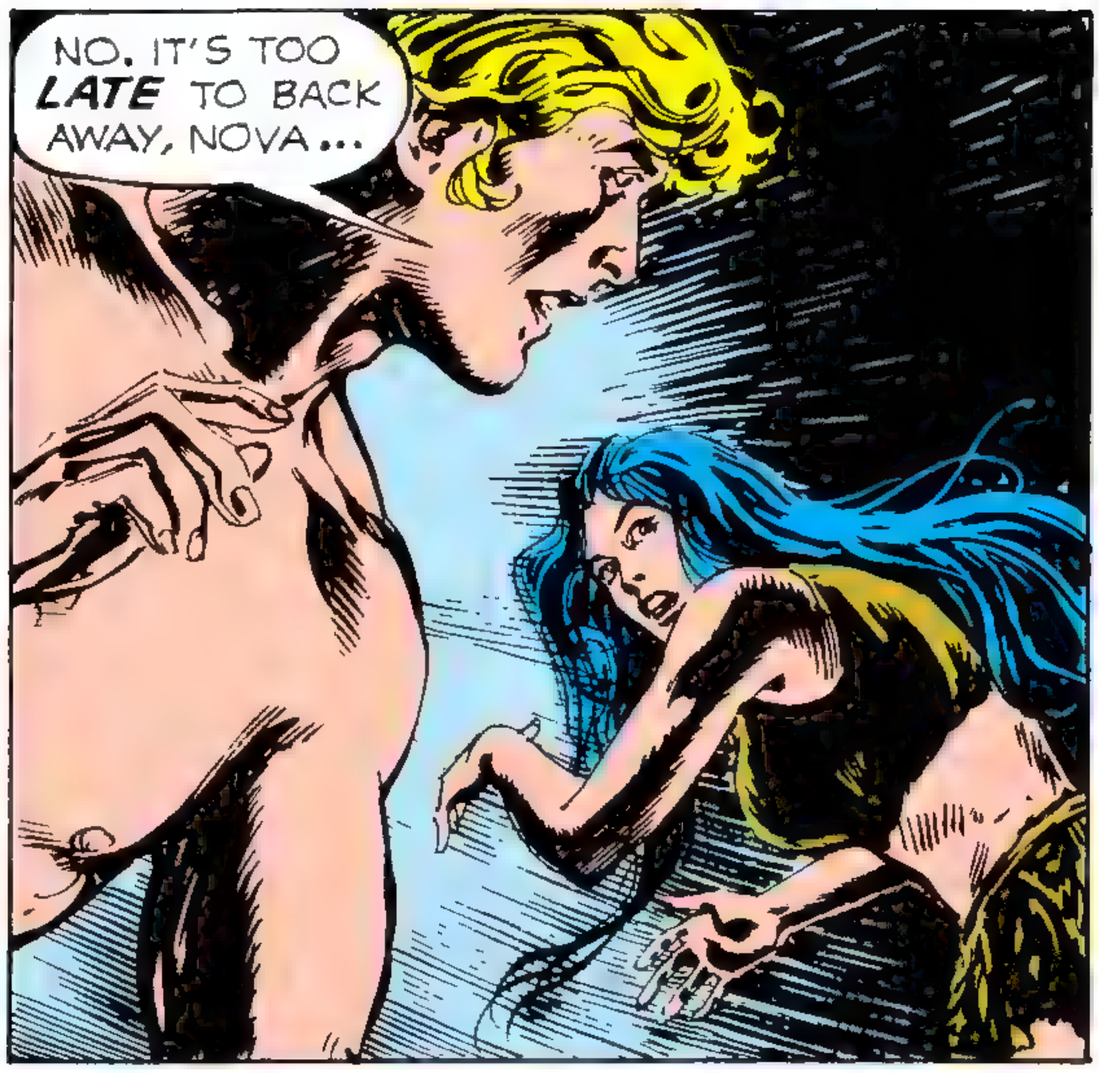

AND SINCE THE WIND IS BEING SUCKED INTO THE VENT...
MMMMMMMMM

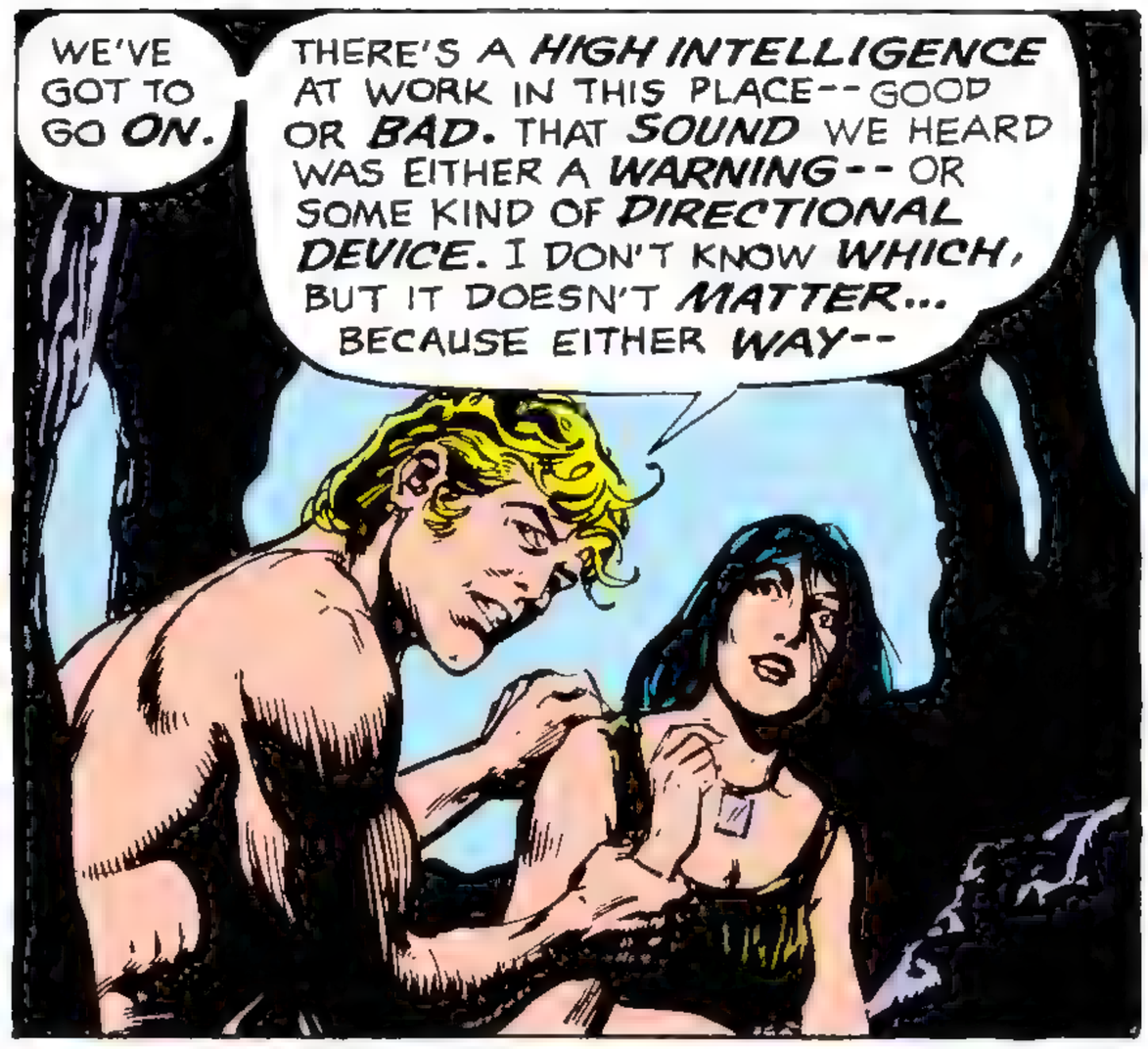

... AT LEAST WE KNOW THEY BREATHE AIR, ANYWAY...
MMMMMMMM

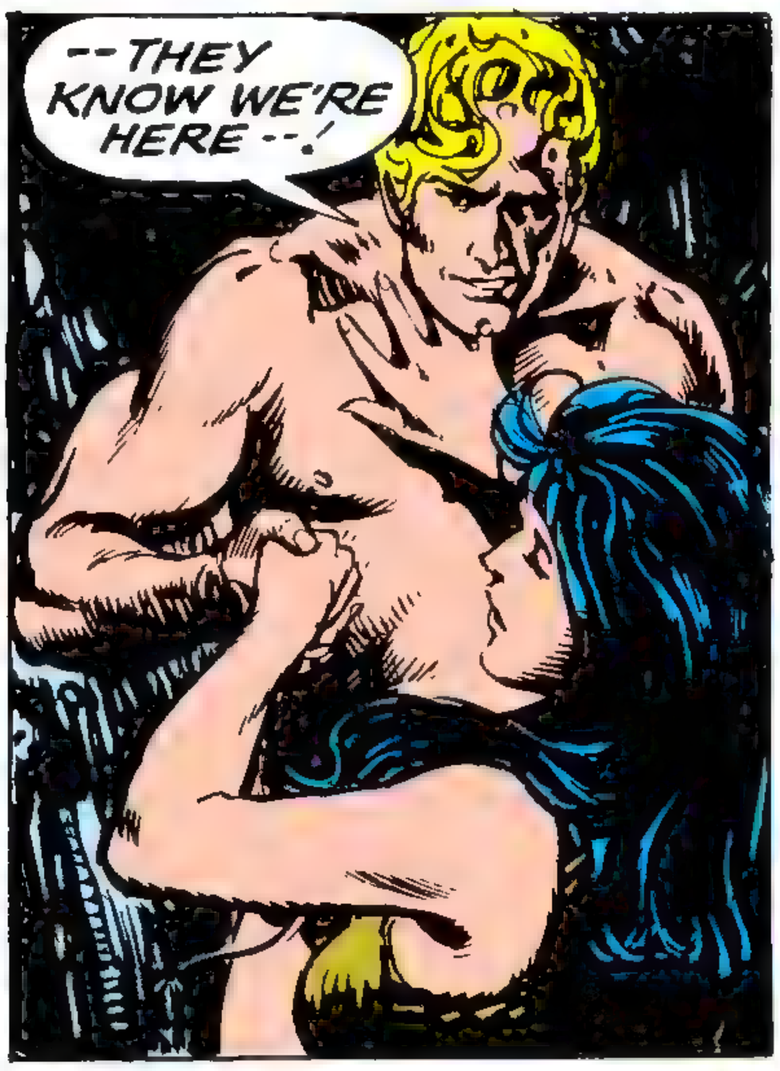

SO LET'S SEE WHAT'S INSIDE THIS CRAZY--
MMMMM


MMMM...
SILENCE.

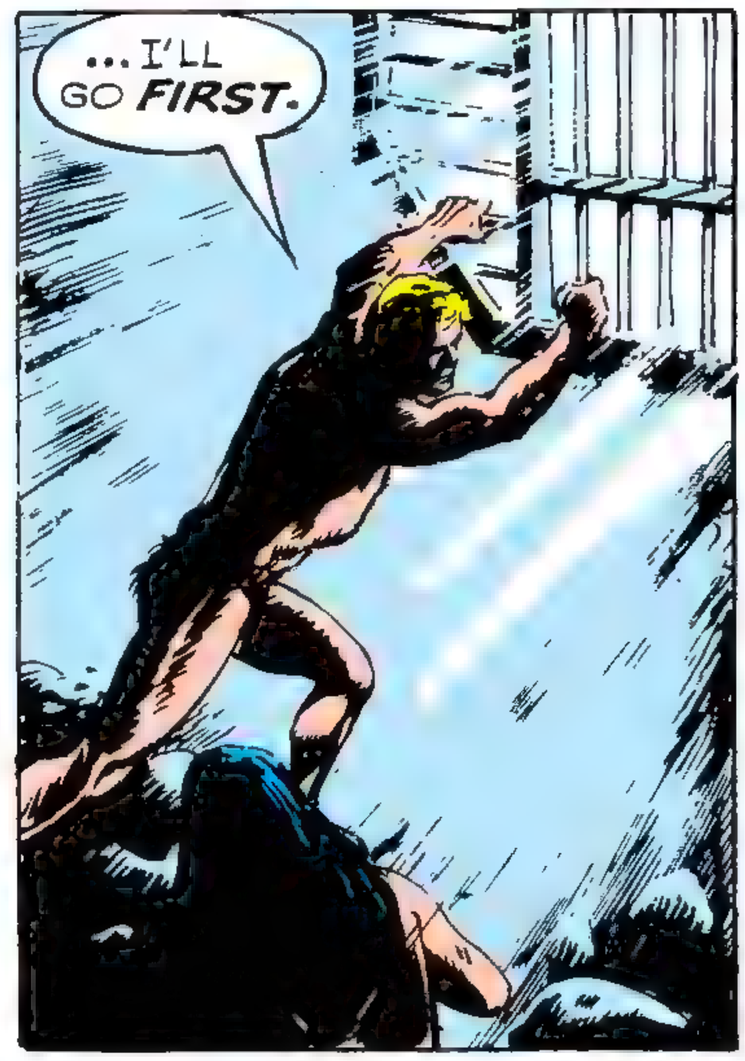

SHOCKING SILENCE...


NO. IT'S TOO LATE TO BACK AWAY, NOVA...

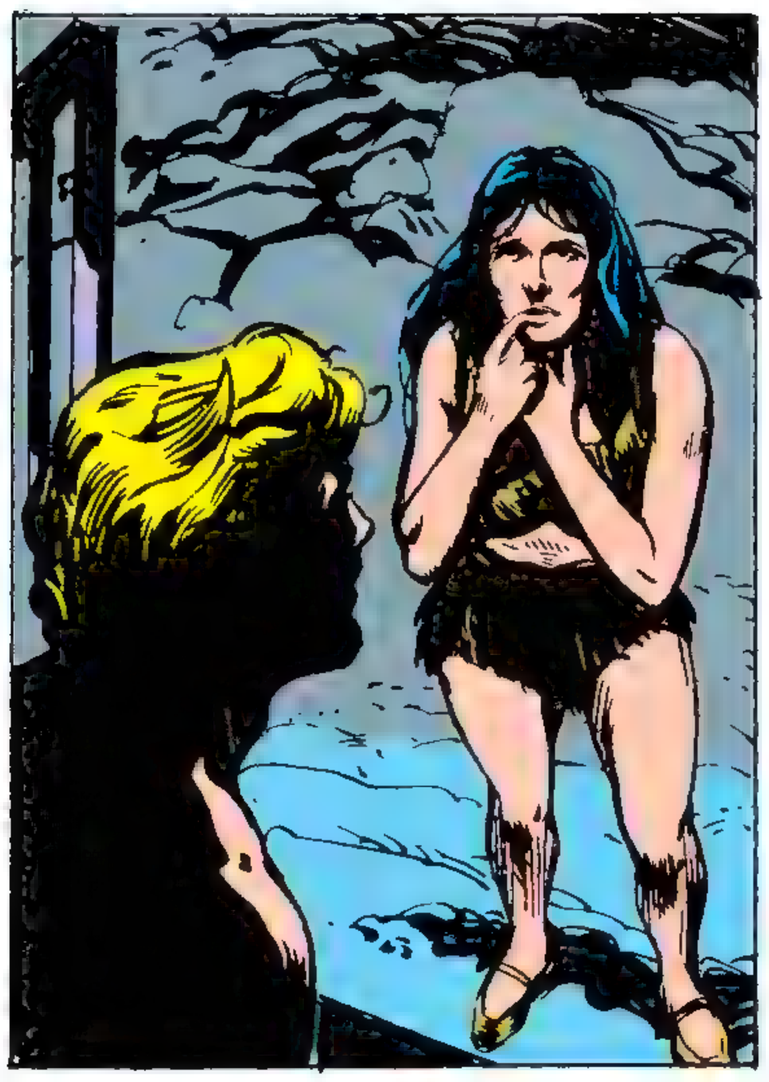

WE'VE GOT TO GO ON.
THERE'S A HIGH INTELLIGENCE AT WORK IN THIS PLACE--GOOD OR BAD. THAT SOUND WE HEARD WAS EITHER A WARNING--OR SOME KIND OF DIRECTIONAL DEVICE. I DON'T KNOW WHICH, BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER... BECAUSE EITHER WAY--

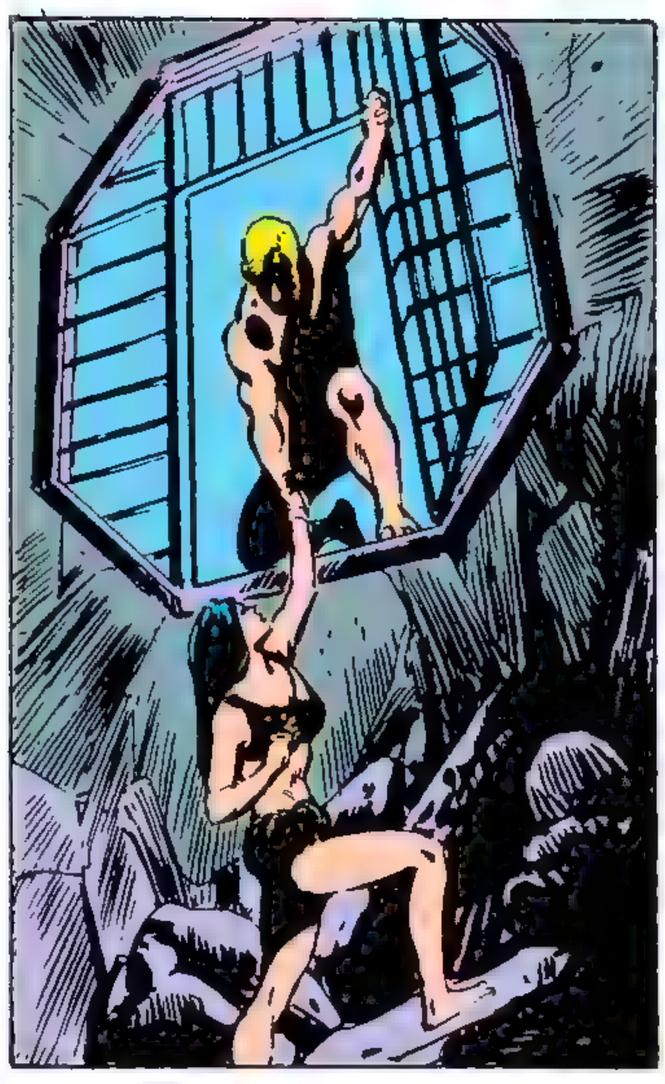

--THEY KNOW WE'RE HERE--!

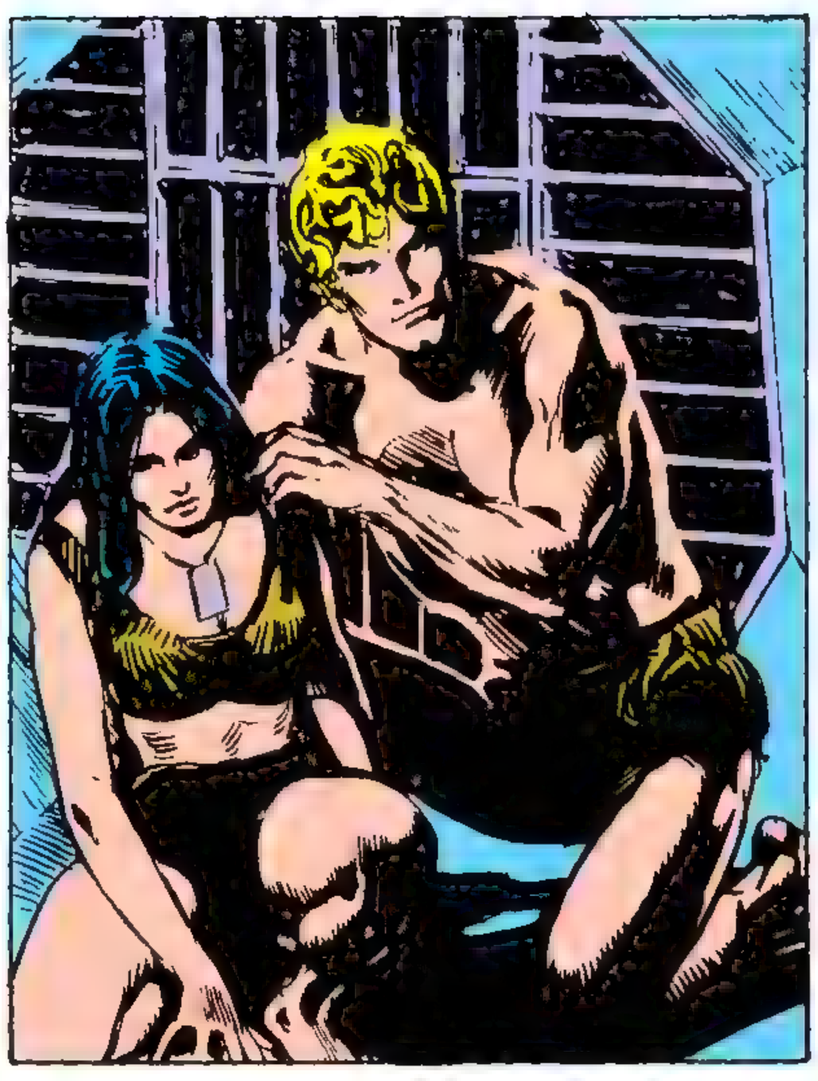
STILL DETERMINED EH...?
ALL RIGHT...

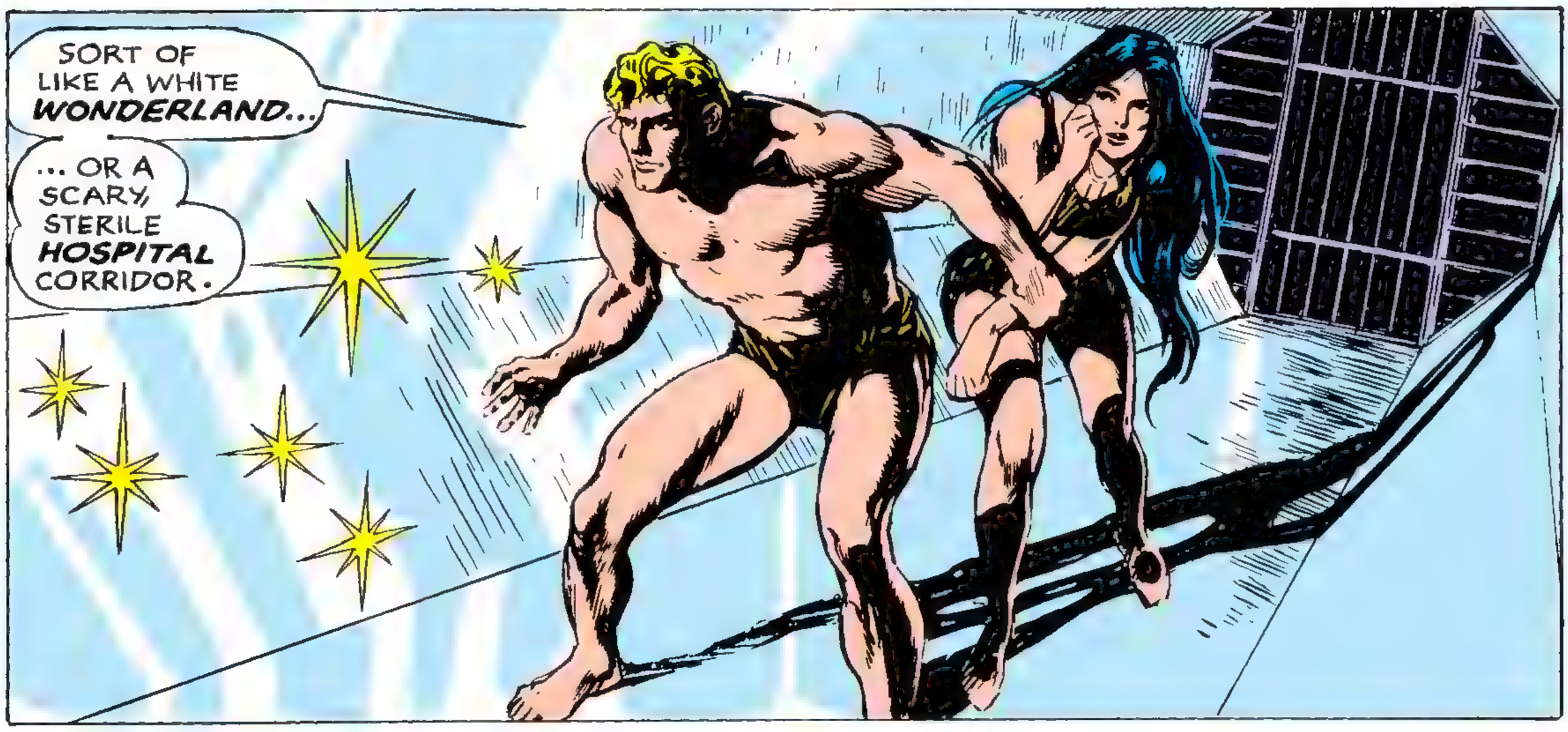

...I'LL GO FIRST.

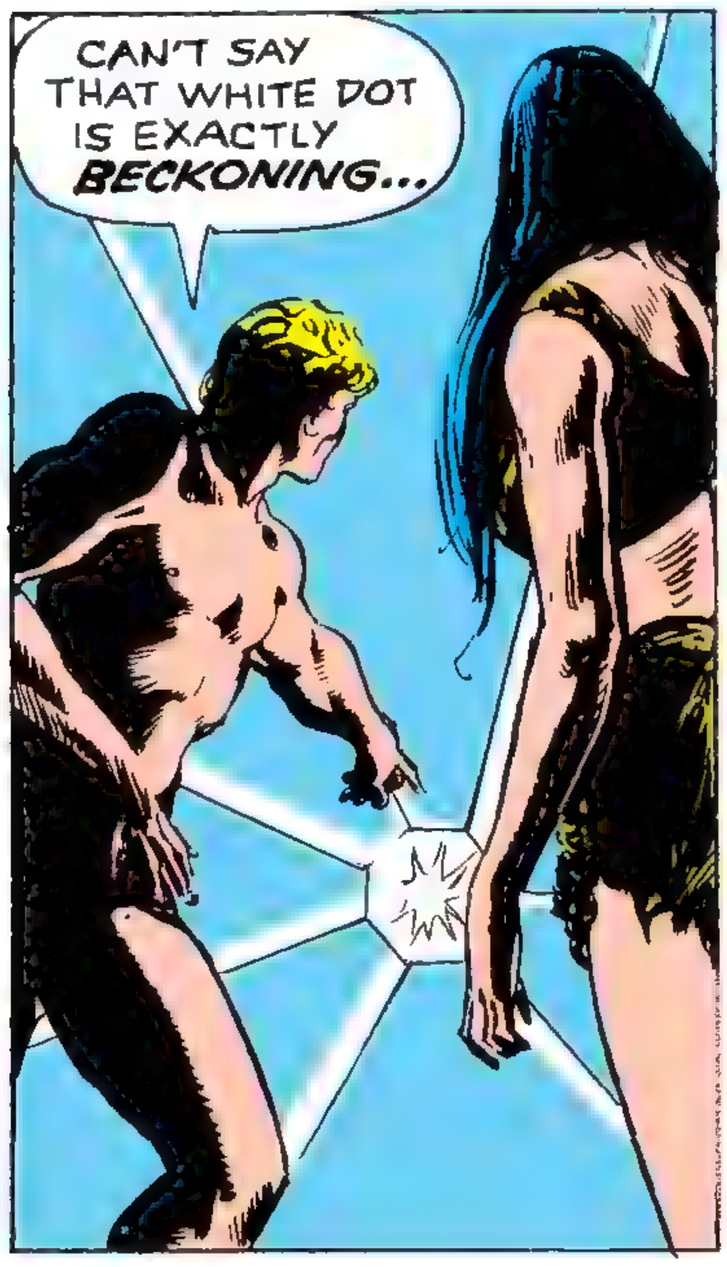
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF...
IT'S EMPTY, COME ON.

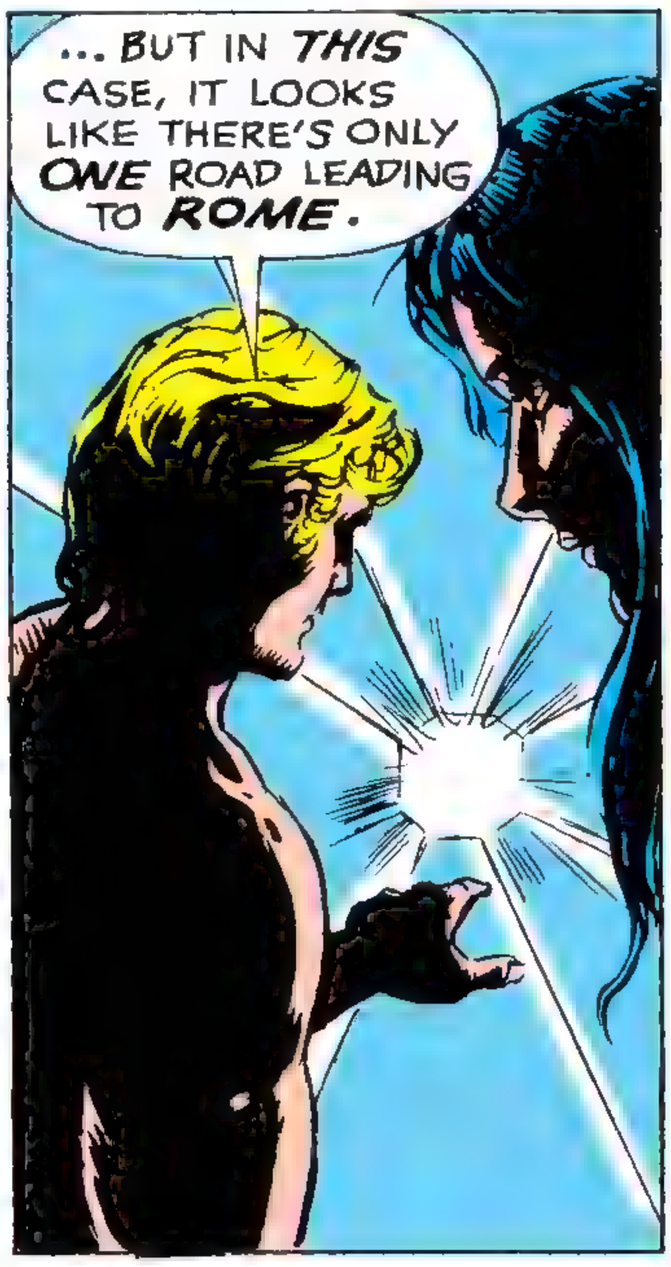


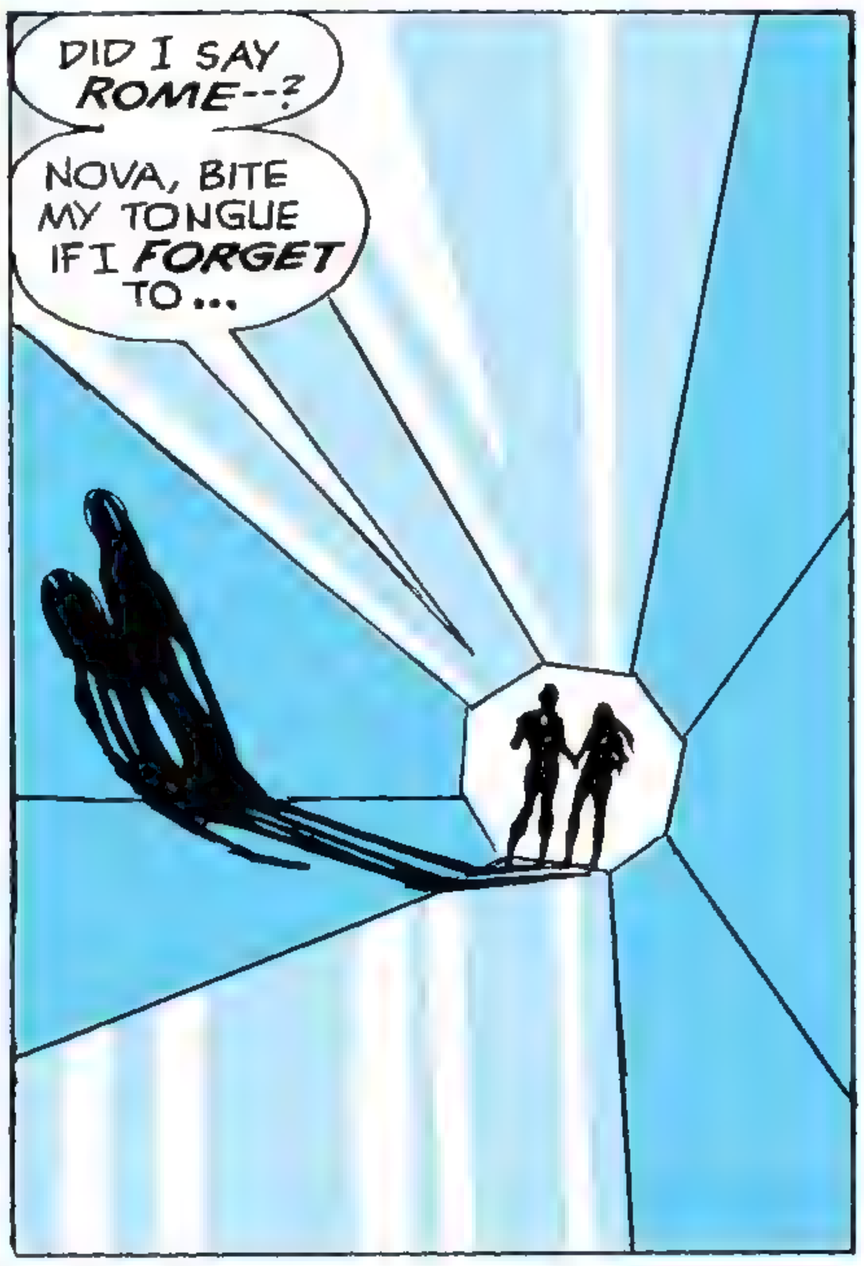


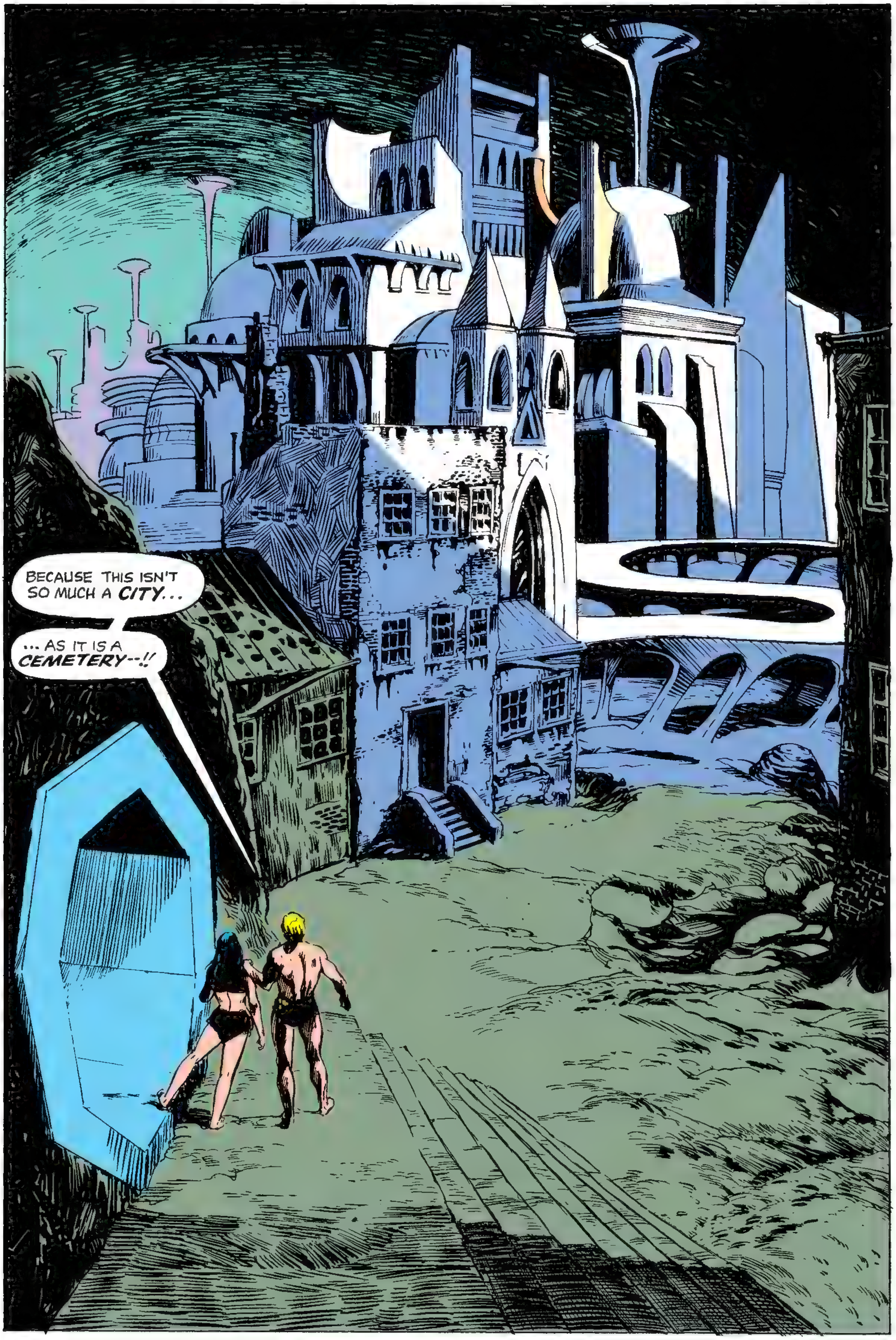


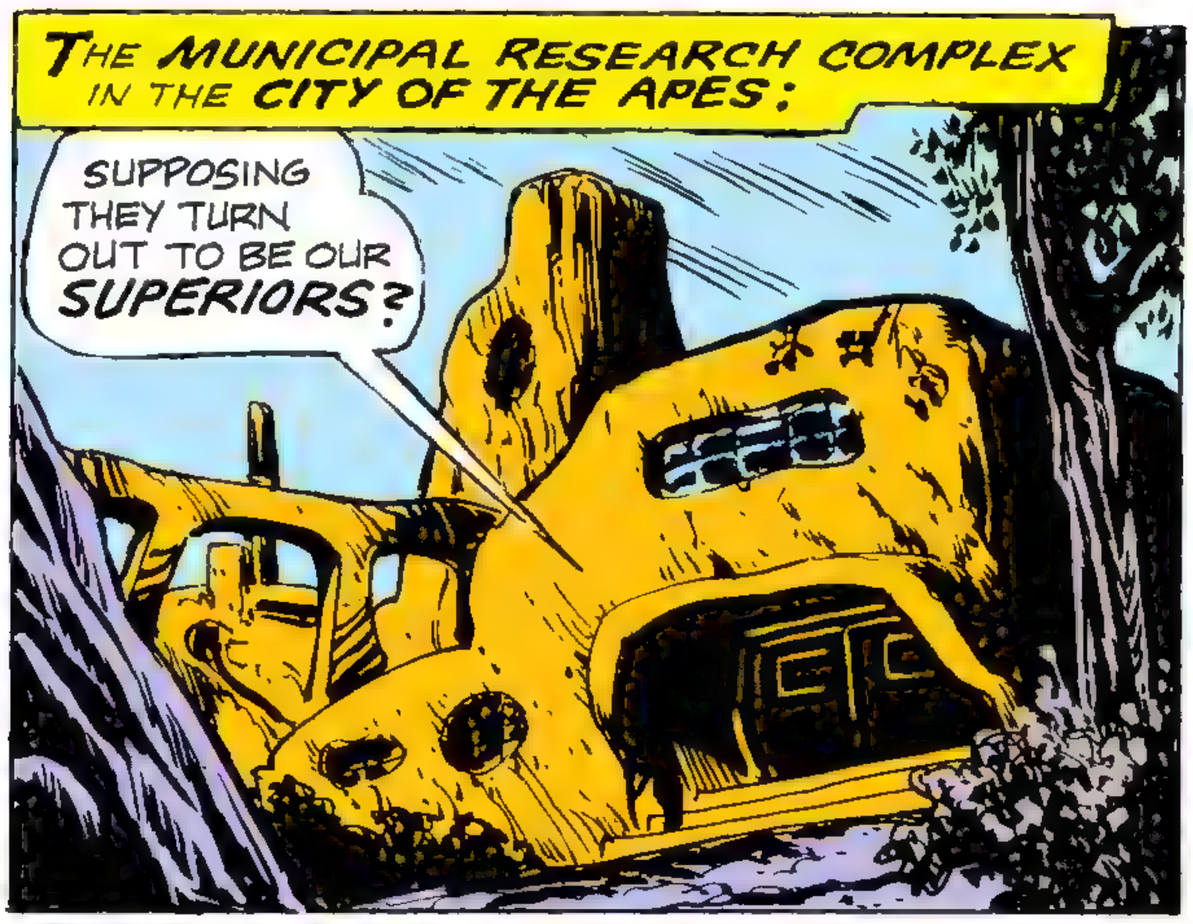

SORT OF LIKE A WHITE WONDERLAND...
... OR A SCARY, STERILE HOSPITAL CORRIDOR.


CAN'T SAY THAT WHITE DOT IS EXACTLY BECKONING...

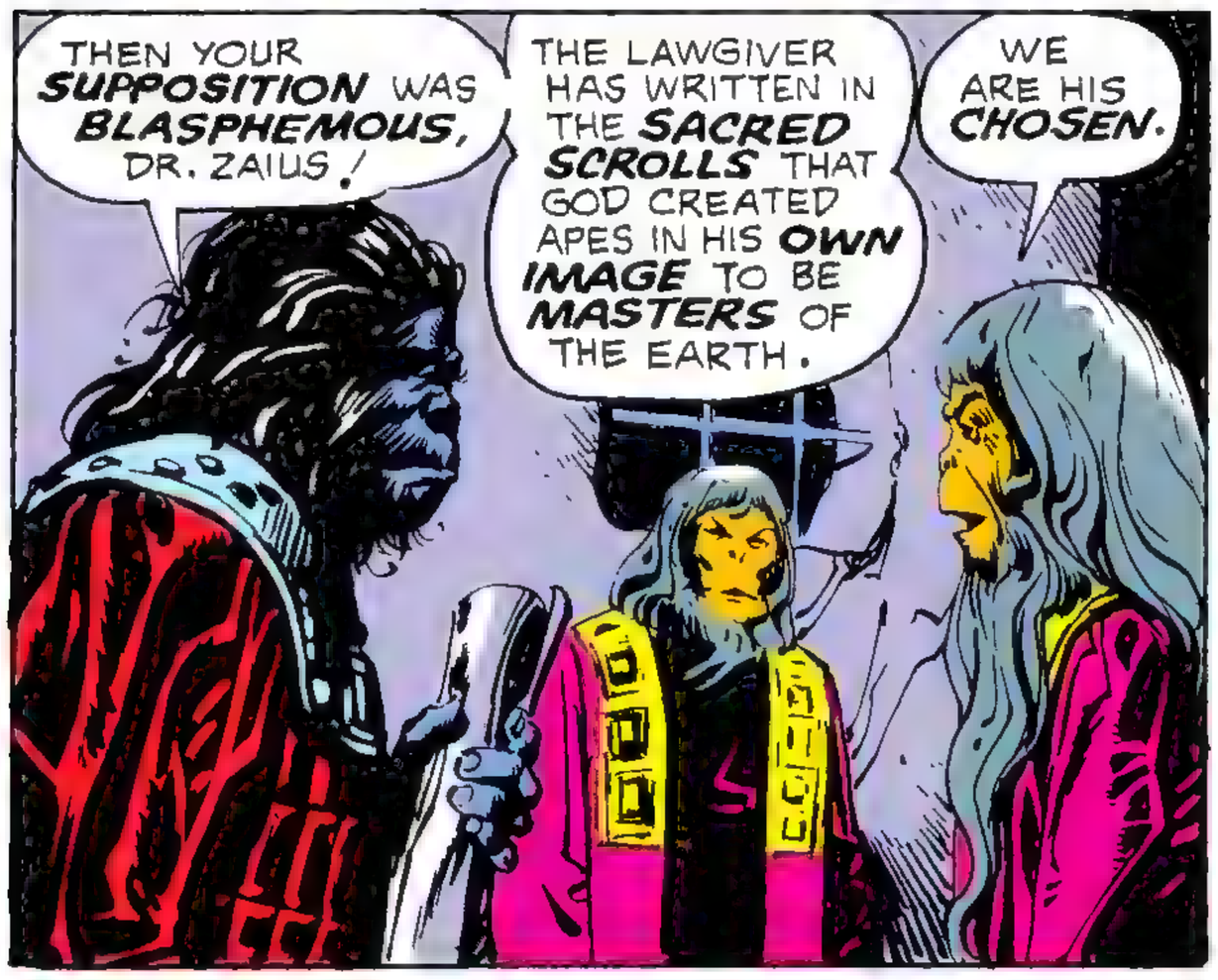

... BUT IN THIS CASE, IT LOOKS LIKE THERE'S ONLY ONE ROAD LEADING TO ROME.


DID I SAY ROME--?
NOVA, BITE MY TONGUE IF I FORGET TO...


BECAUSE THIS ISN'T SO MUCH A CITY...
... AS IT IS A CEMETERY--!!


THE MUNICIPAL RESEARCH COMPLEX IN THE CITY OF THE APES:
SUPPOSING THEY TURN OUT TO BE OUR SUPERIORS?

THEIR TERRITORY IS NO LARGER THAN OURS, DR. ZAIUS. WE SHALL NOT BE OUTNUMBERED.
I WAS NOT REFERRING TO THEIR NUMBERS, GENERAL URSUS. MY SUPPOSITION CONCERNED THEIR INTELLIGENCE...

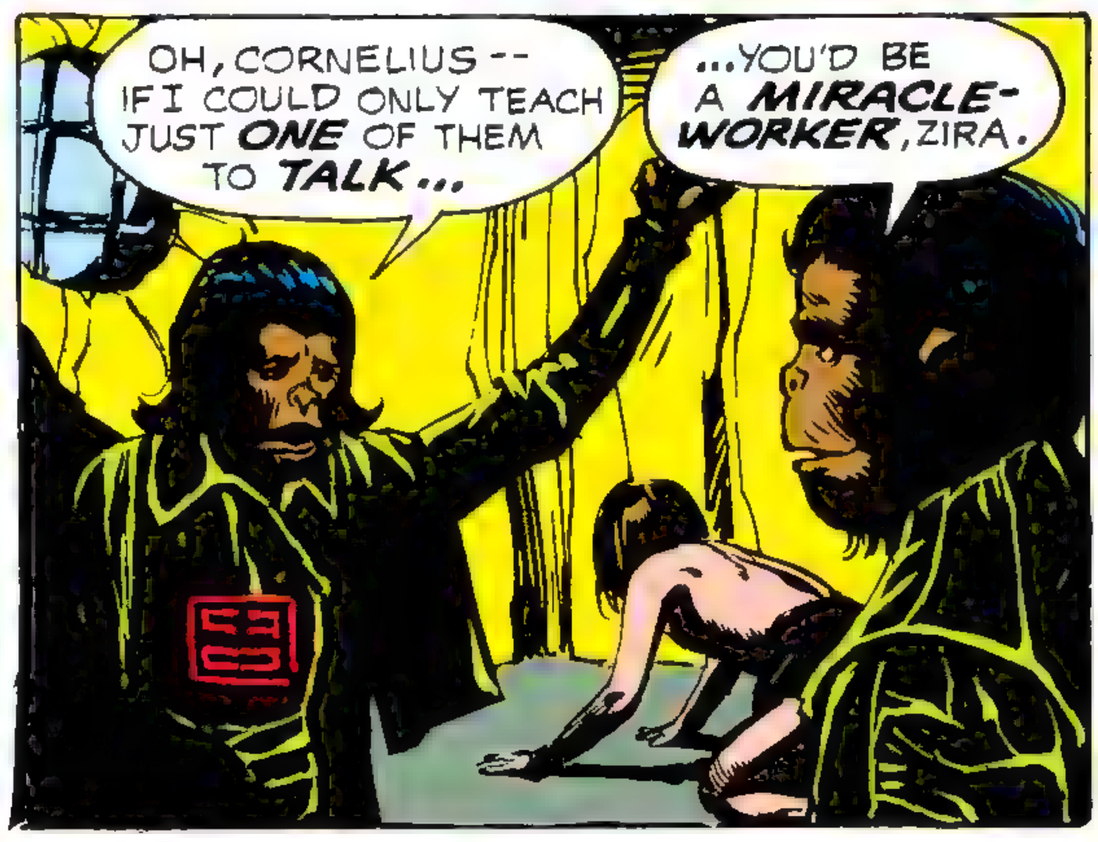

THEN YOUR SUPPOSITION WAS BLASPHEMOUS, DR. ZAIUS!
THE LAWGIVER HAS WRITTEN IN THE SACRED SCROLLS THAT GOD CREATED APES IN HIS OWN IMAGE TO BE MASTERS OF THE EARTH.
WE ARE HIS CHOSEN.

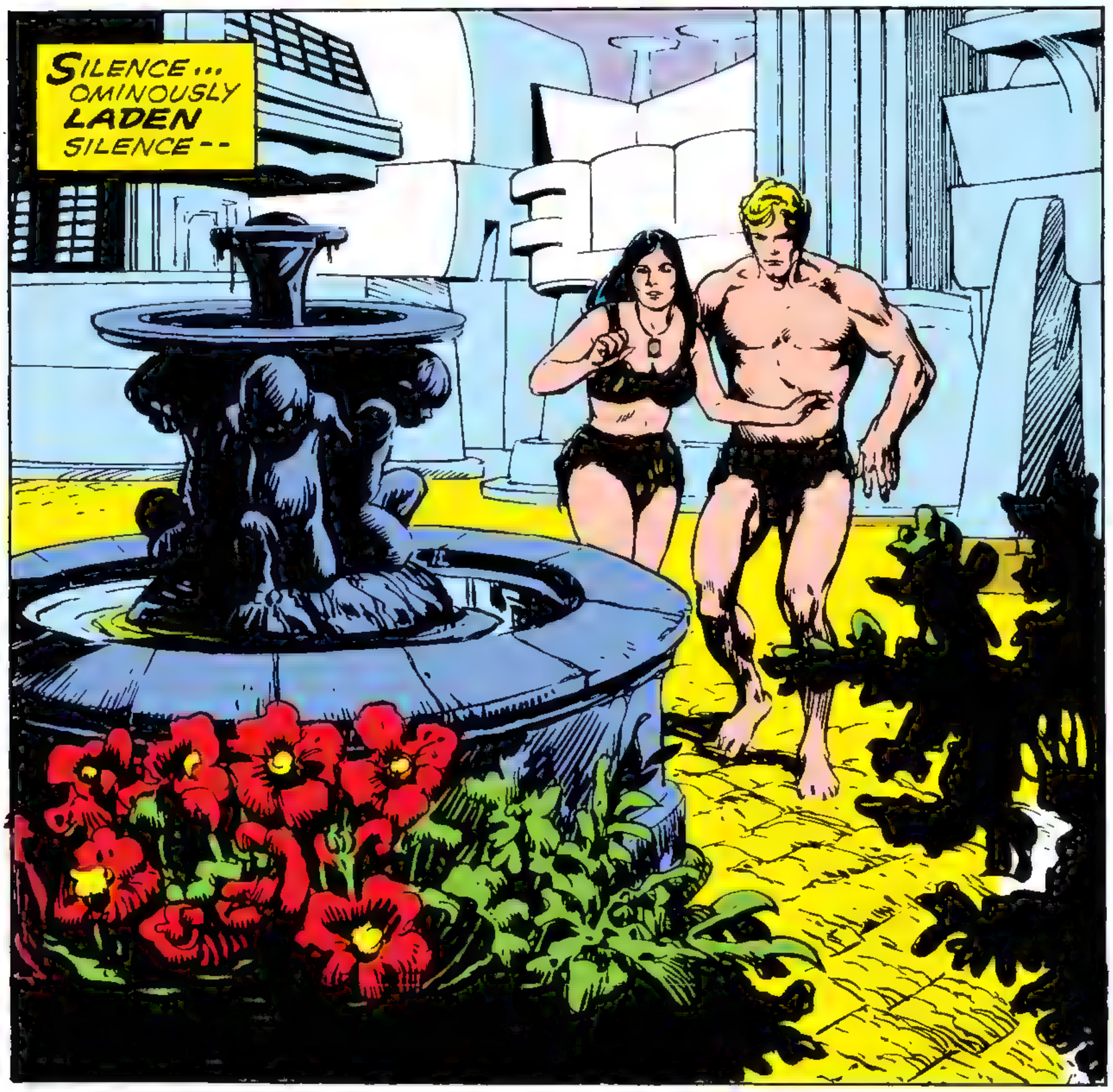
DO YOU DOUBT WHAT THE MINISTER HAS SAID?
WHAT I DOUBT IS YOUR INTERPRETATION OF GOD'S INTENTION. HAS HE ORDAINED THAT WE SHOULD MAKE WAR?

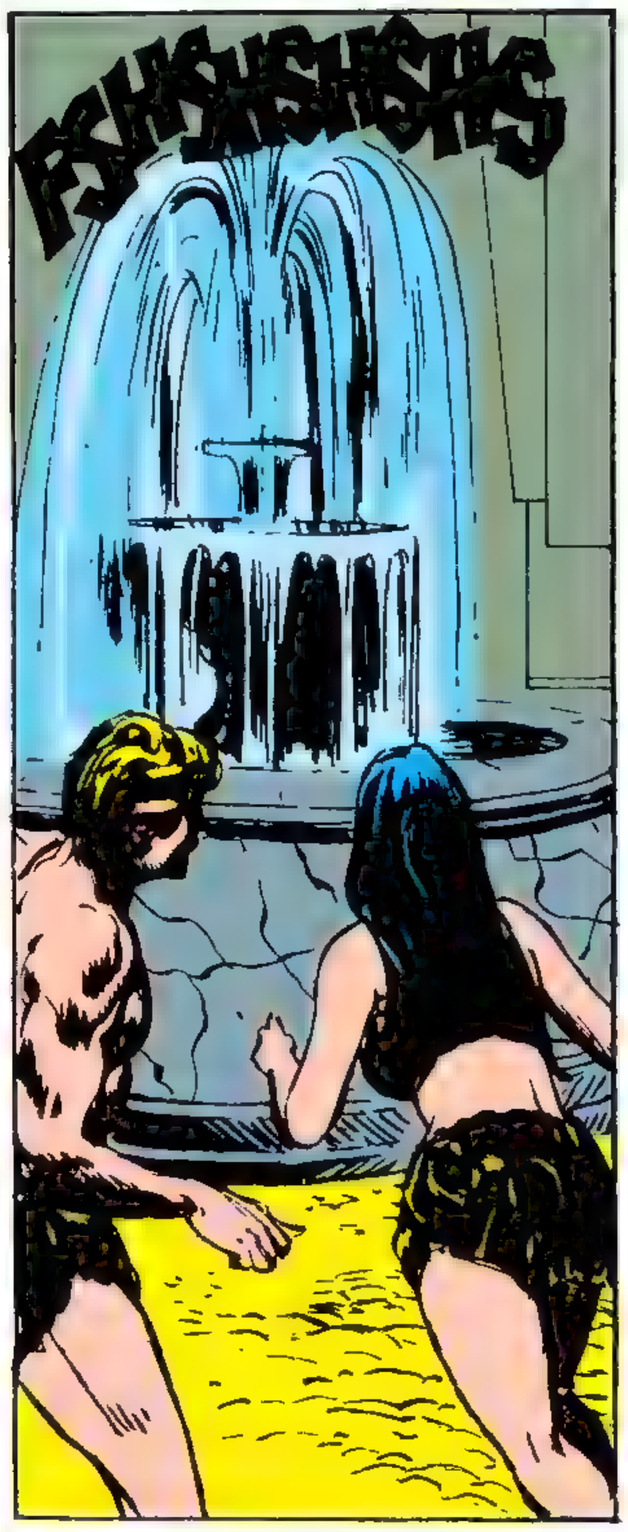
HAS HE ORDAINED THAT WE SHOULD DIE OF STARVATION?!
HAS HE ORDAINED THAT WE SHOULD MAKE PEACE WITH THE HUMAN RACE?
THE HUMANS-- THEY'RE MERE ANIMALS.

AND THESE-- HERE IN THE FORBIDDEN ZONE?
THEY ARE THE UNKNOWN, GENERAL URSUS.

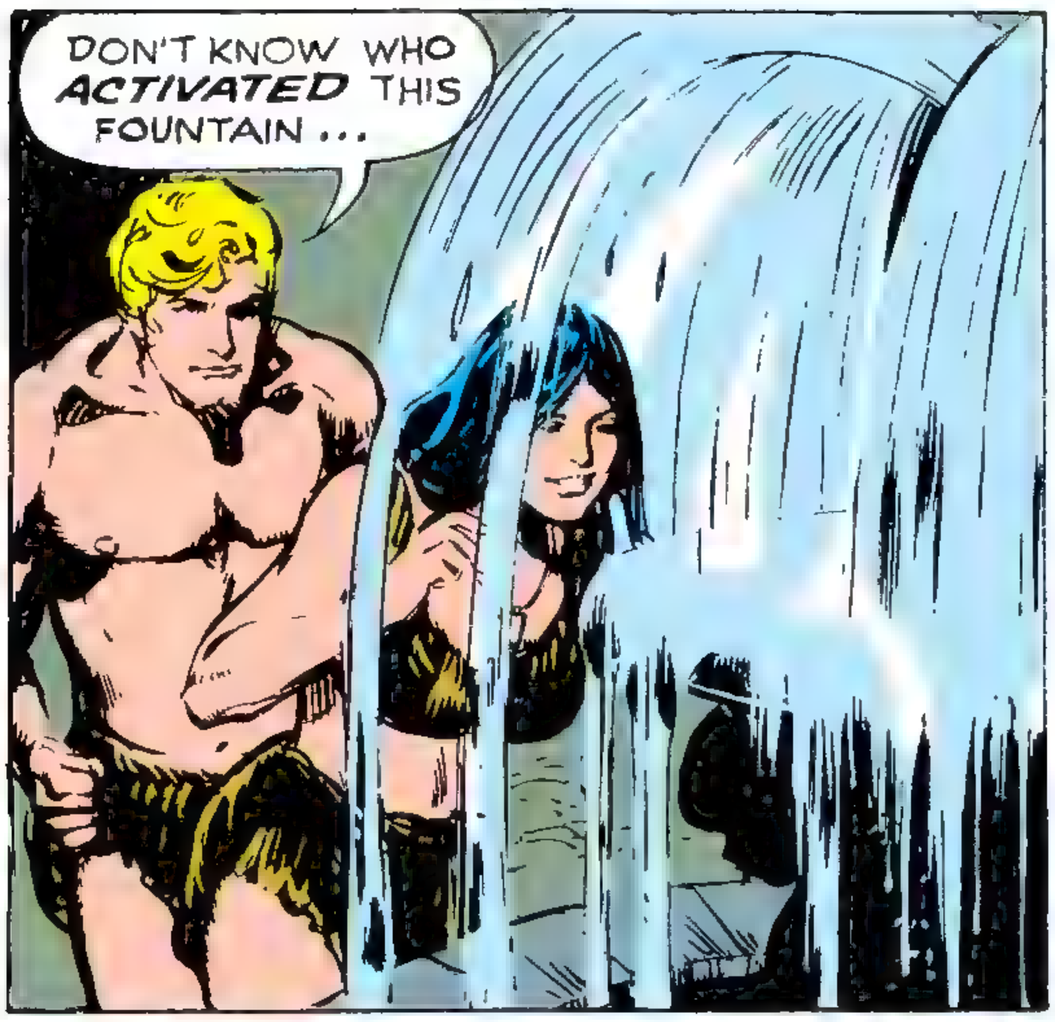
A GODLY APE IS NOT AFRAID OF THE UNKNOWN.
I AM NOT AFRAID. I AM MERELY CIRCUMSPECT.

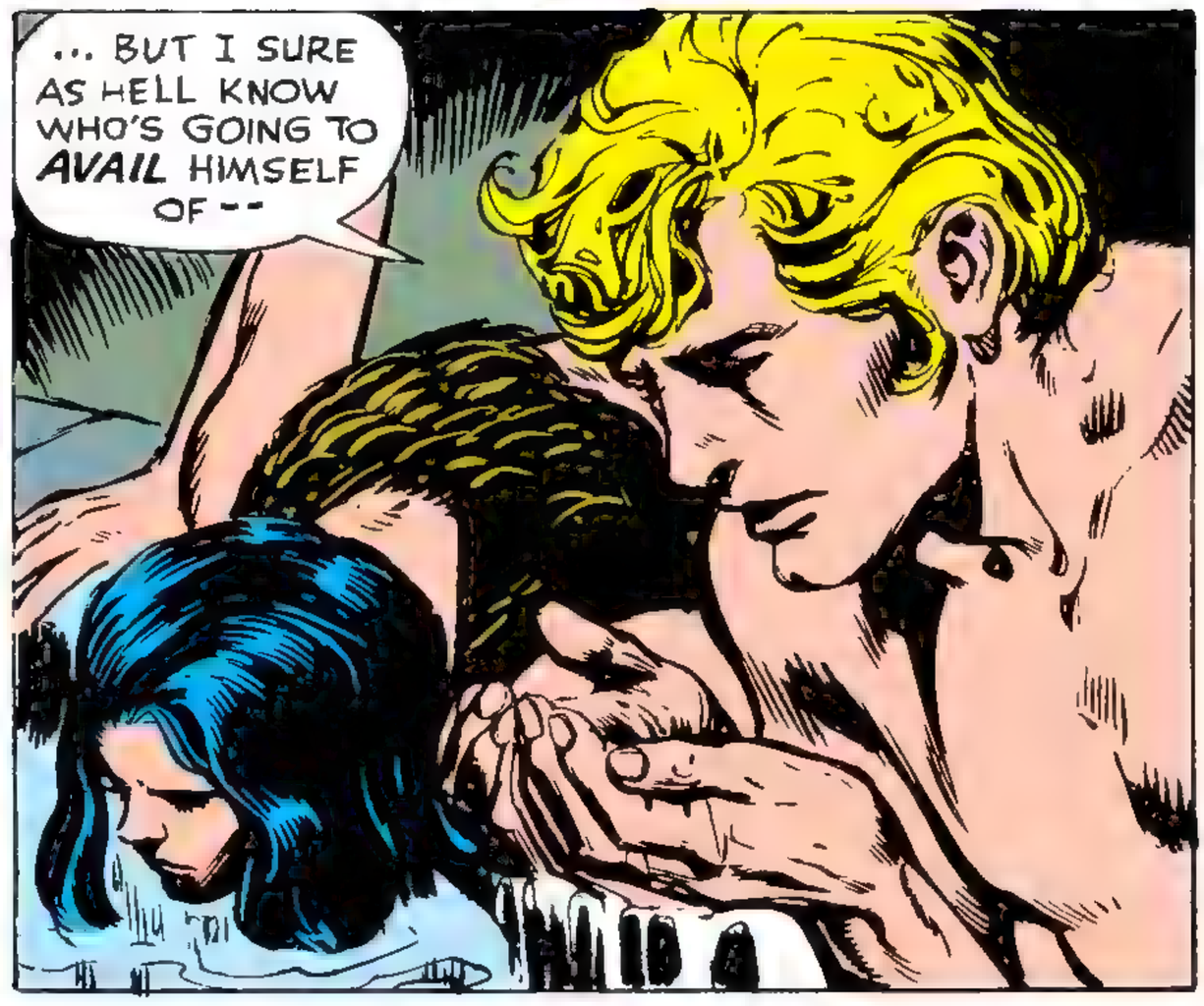




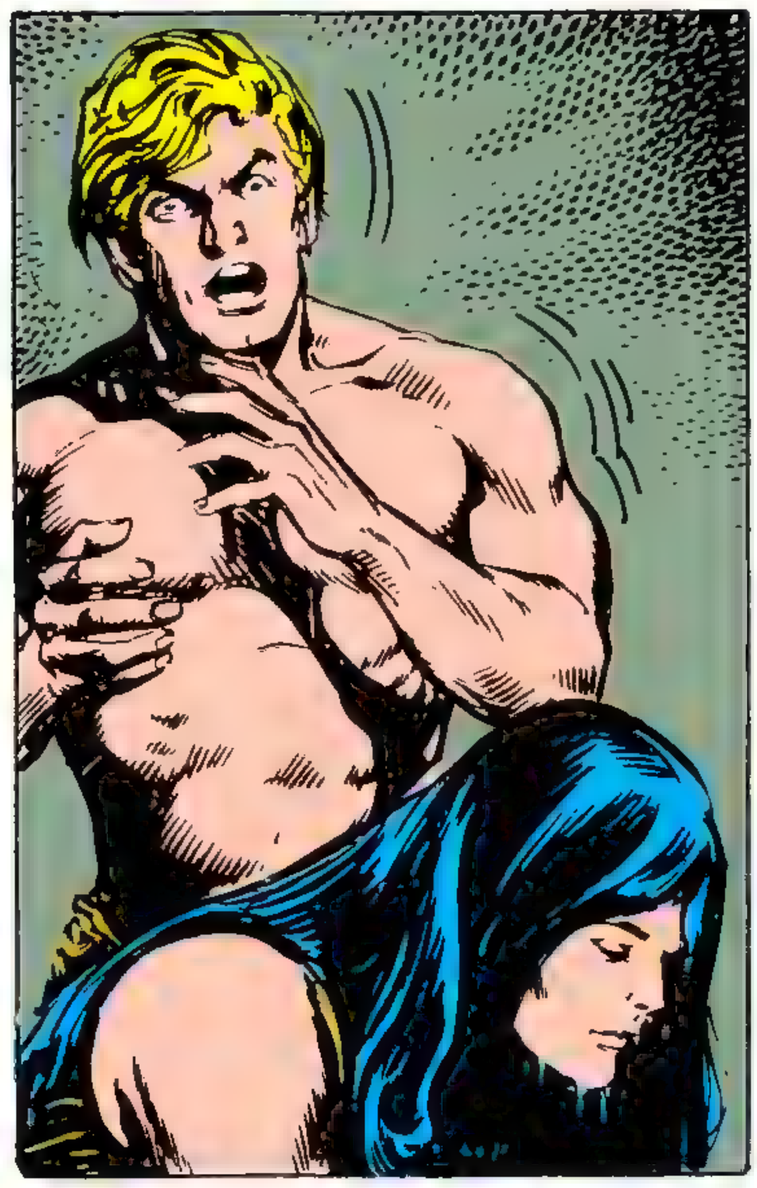


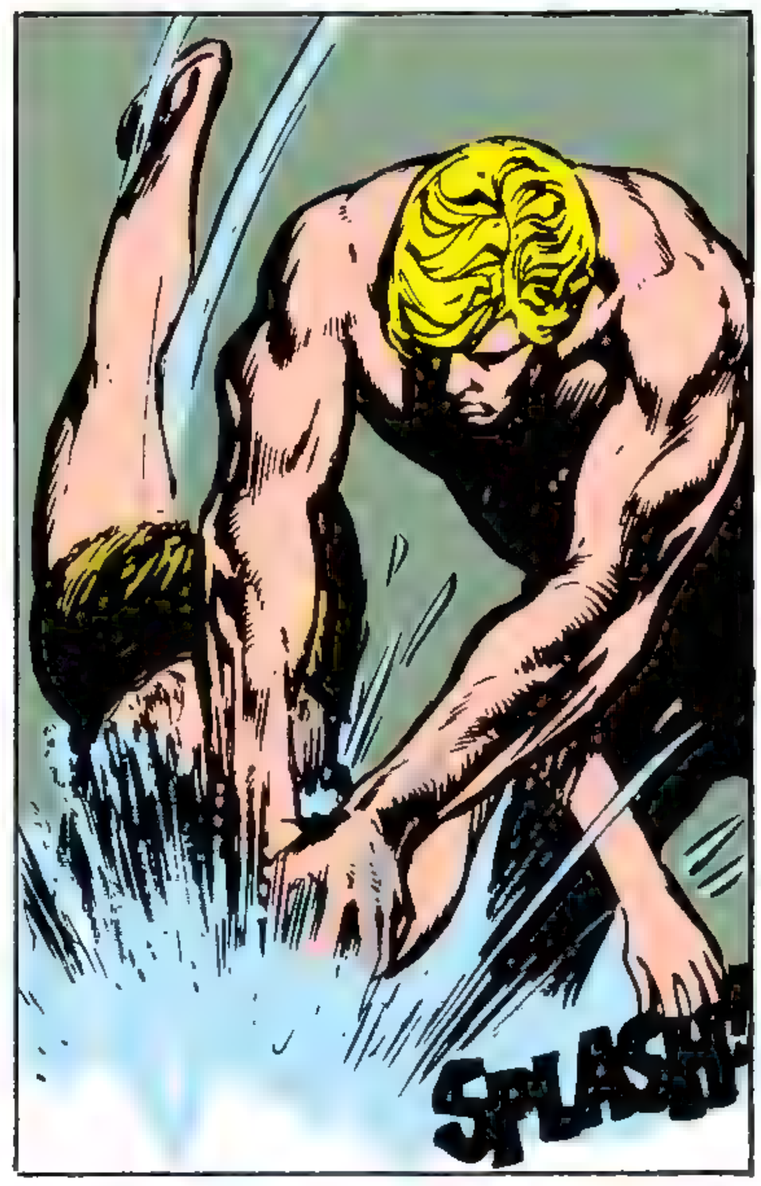
--ABRUPTLY BROKEN.

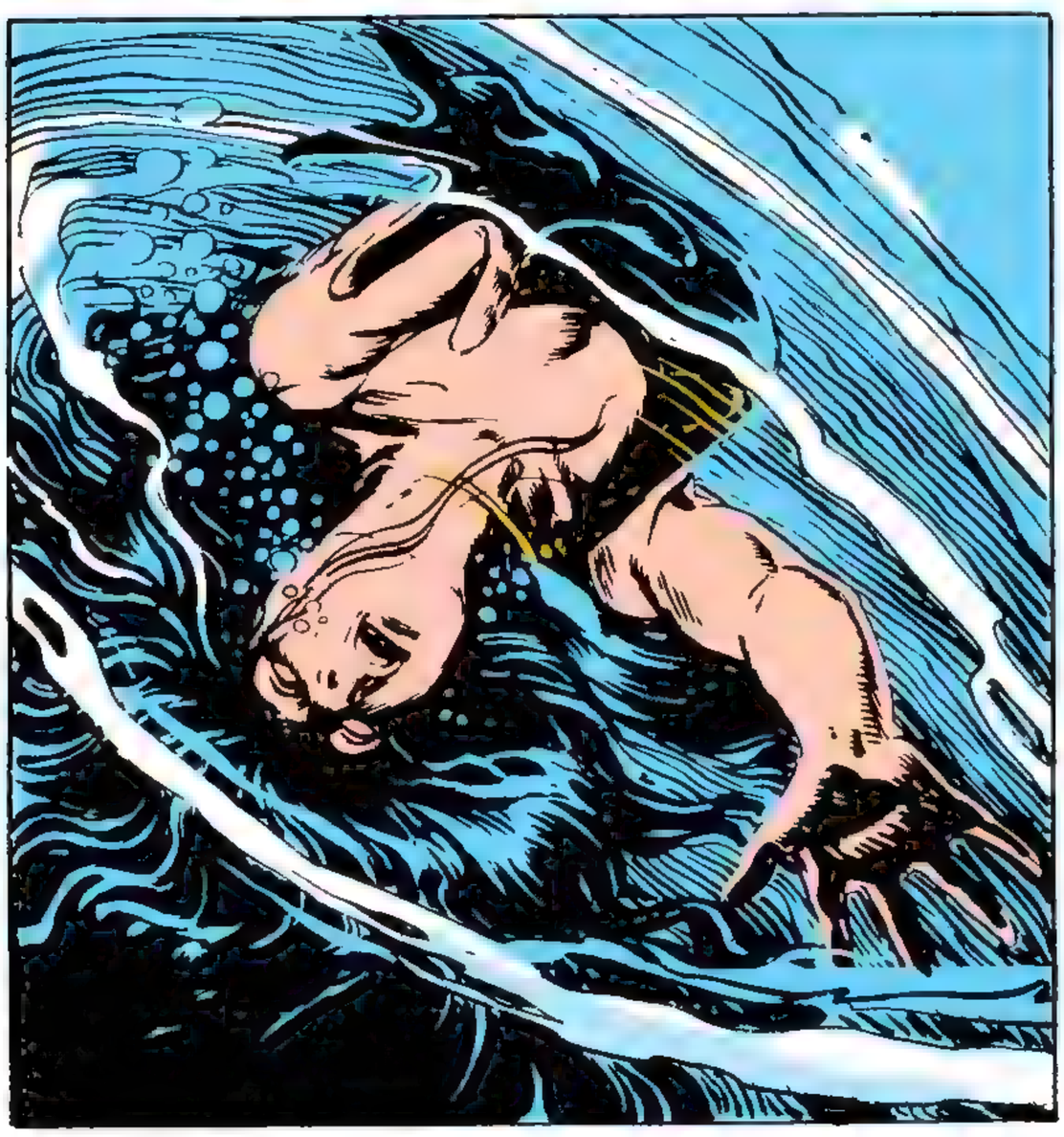

DON'T KNOW WHO ACTIVATED THIS FOUNTAIN ...

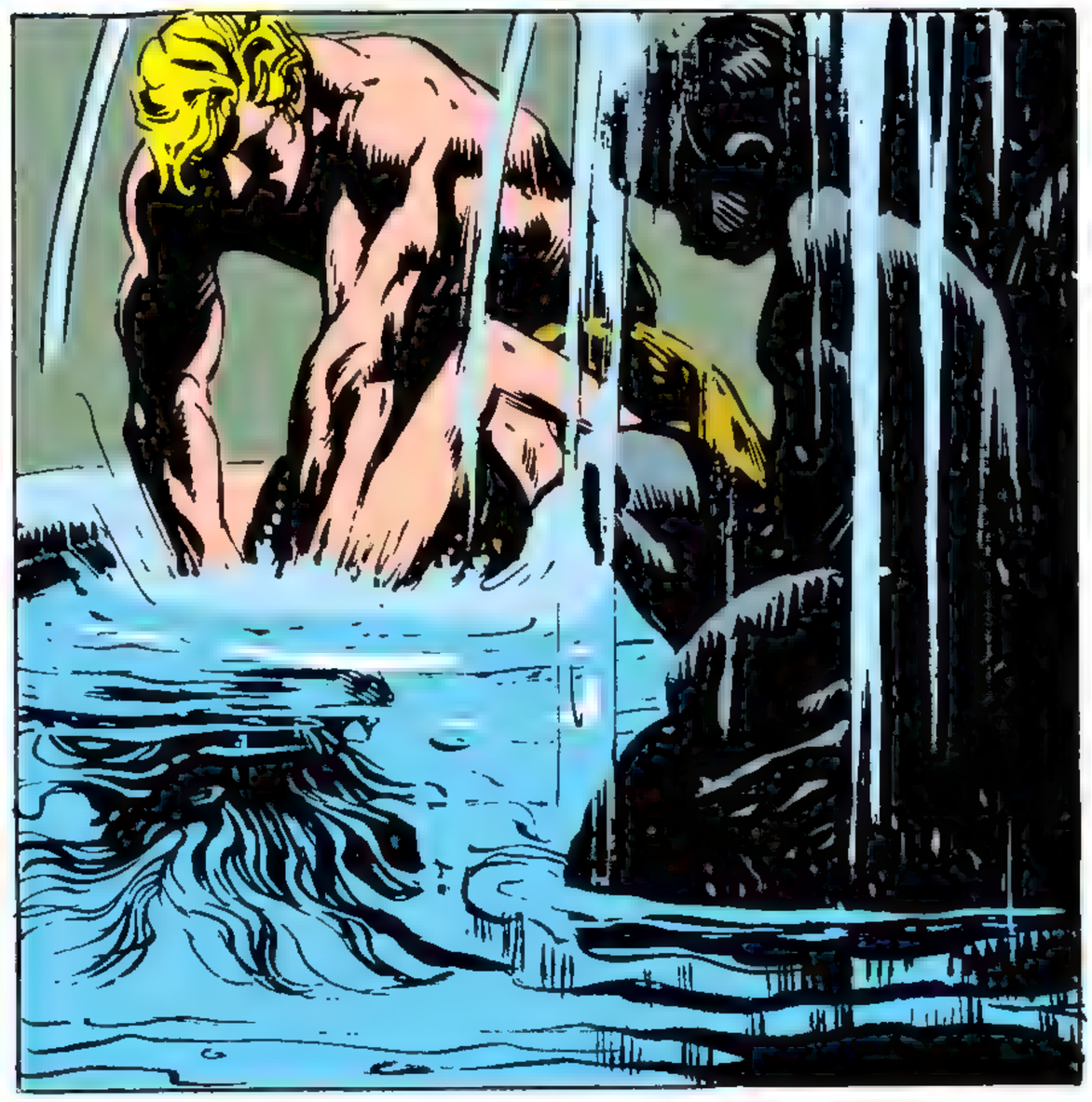

... BUT I SURE AS HELL KNOW WHO'S GOING TO AVAIL HIMSELF OF --

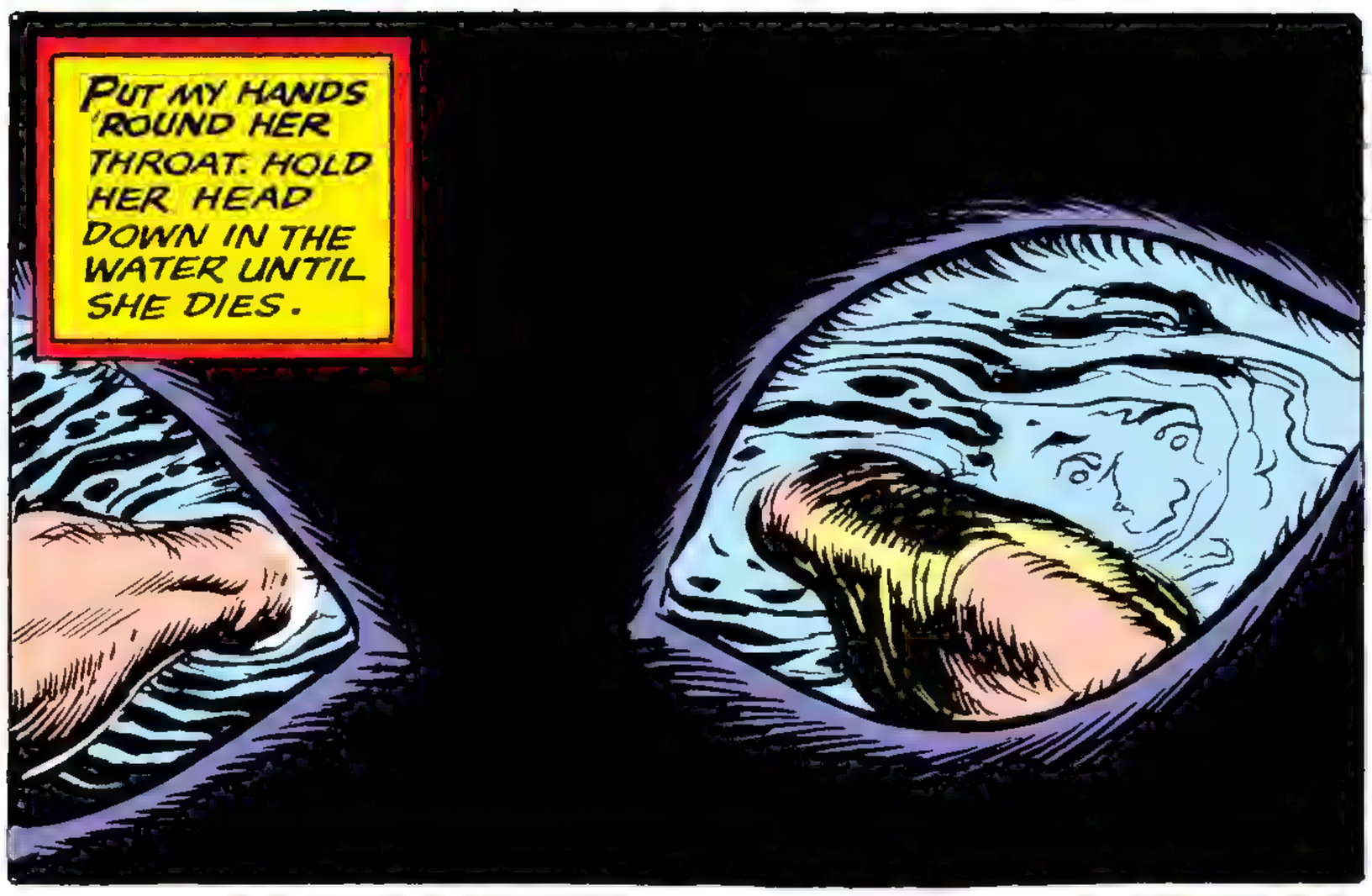
--UK-K...



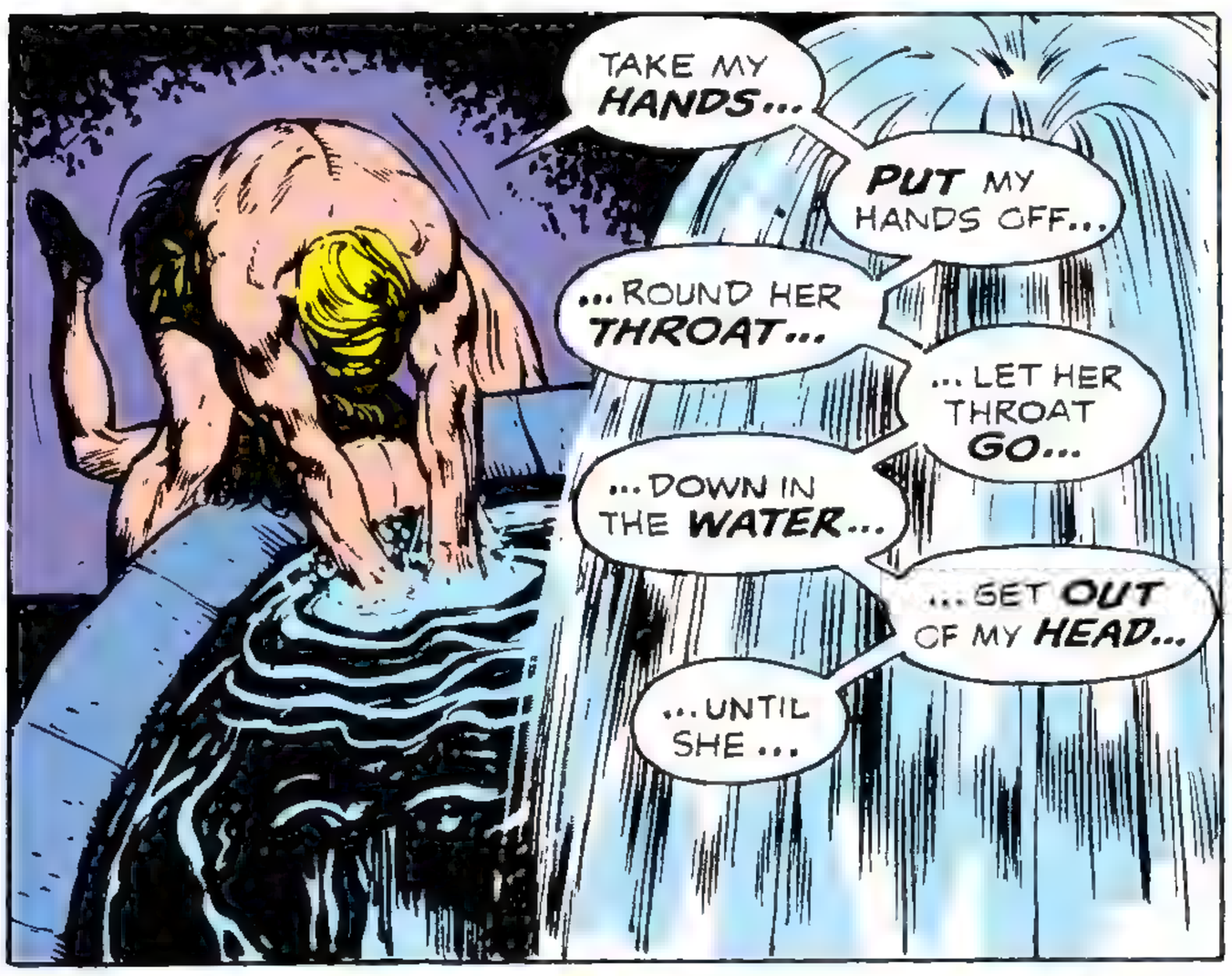

SPLASH!

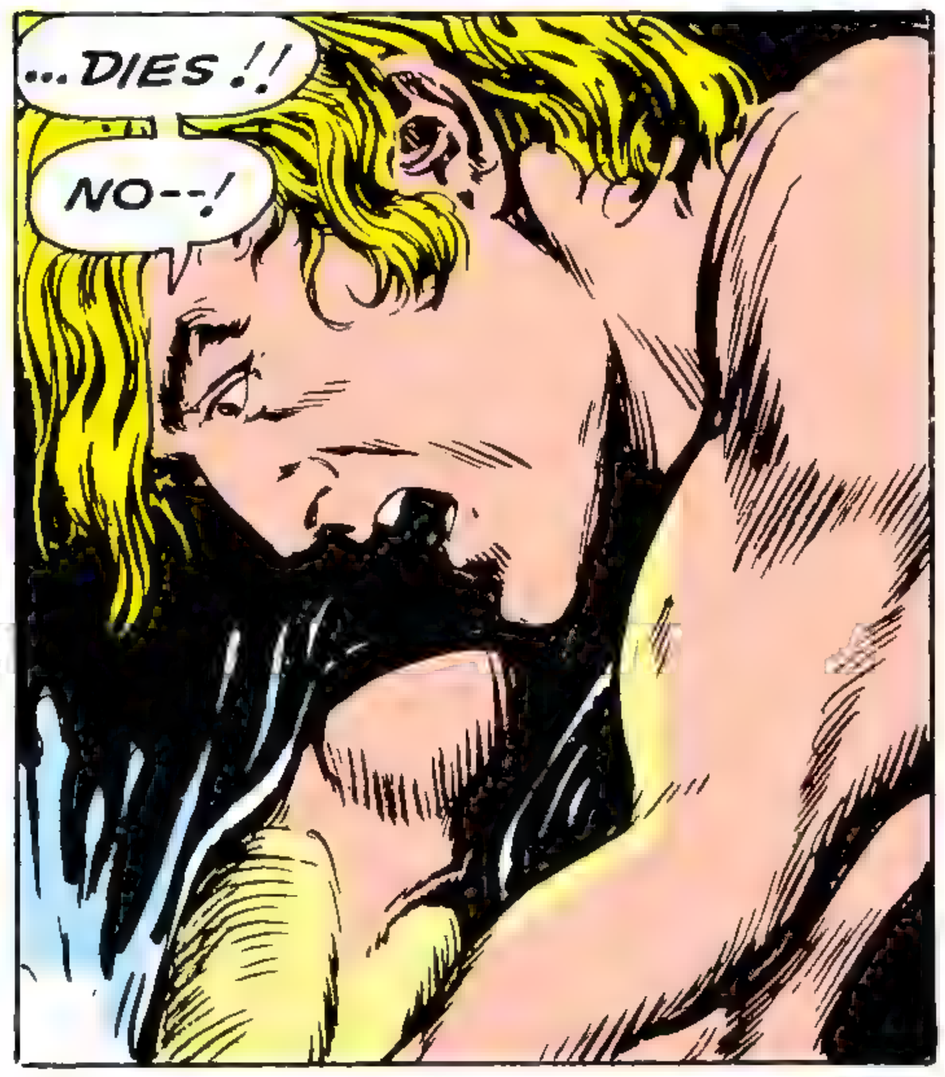




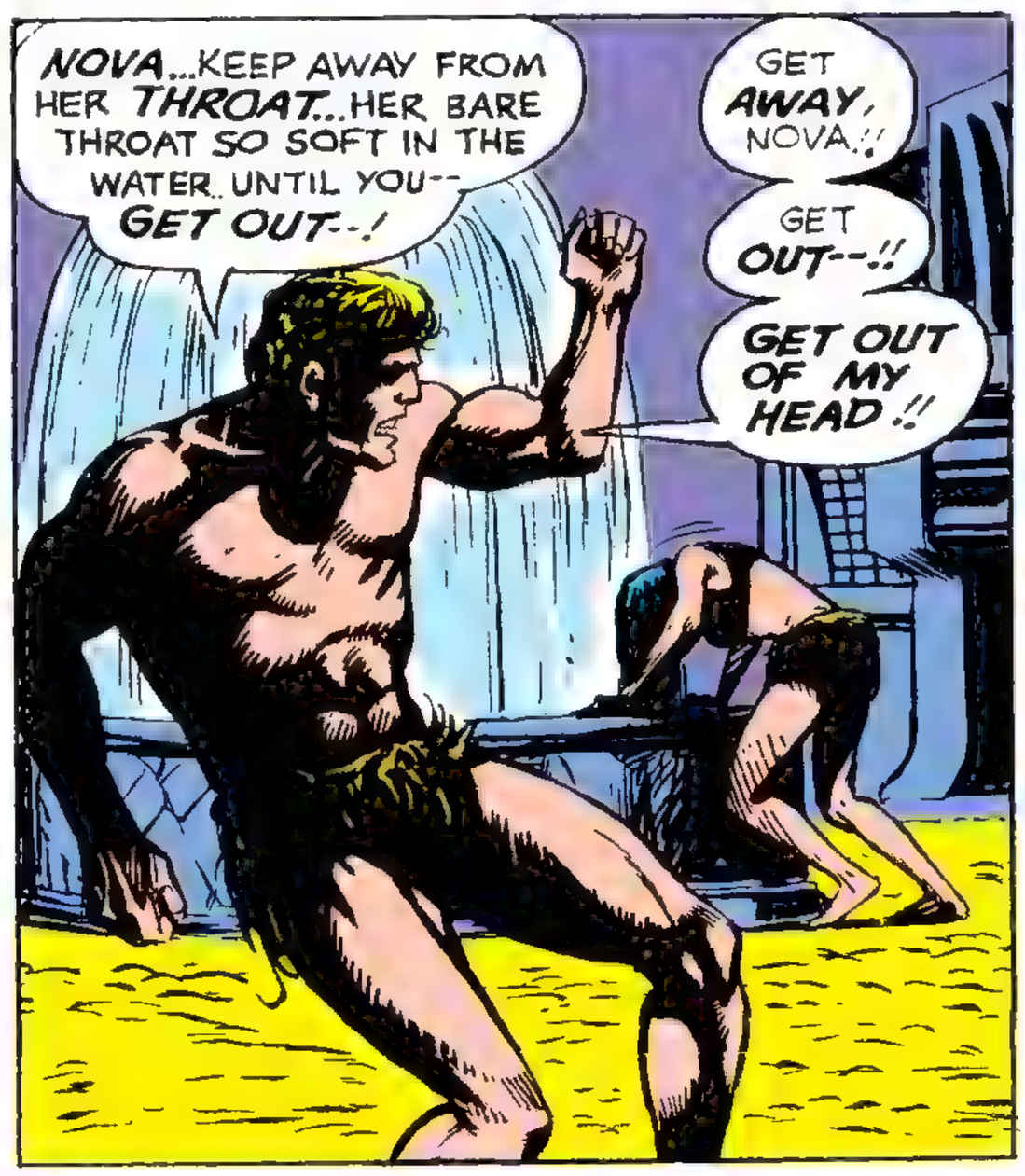

PUT MY HANDS 'ROUND HER THROAT. HOLD HER HEAD DOWN IN THE WATER UNTIL SHE DIES.

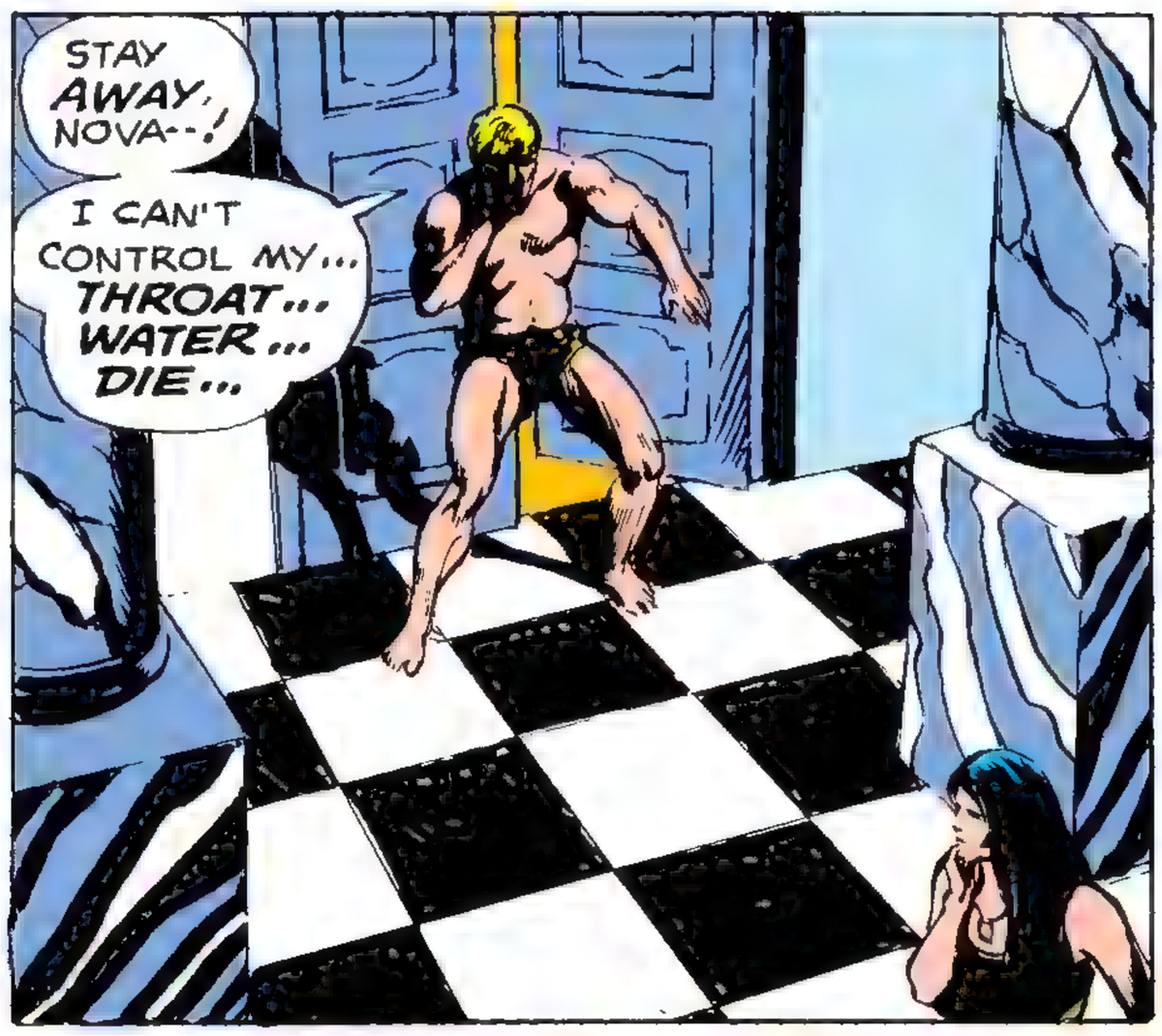
TAKE MY HANDS OFF HER THROAT. GET OUT OF MY HEAD.

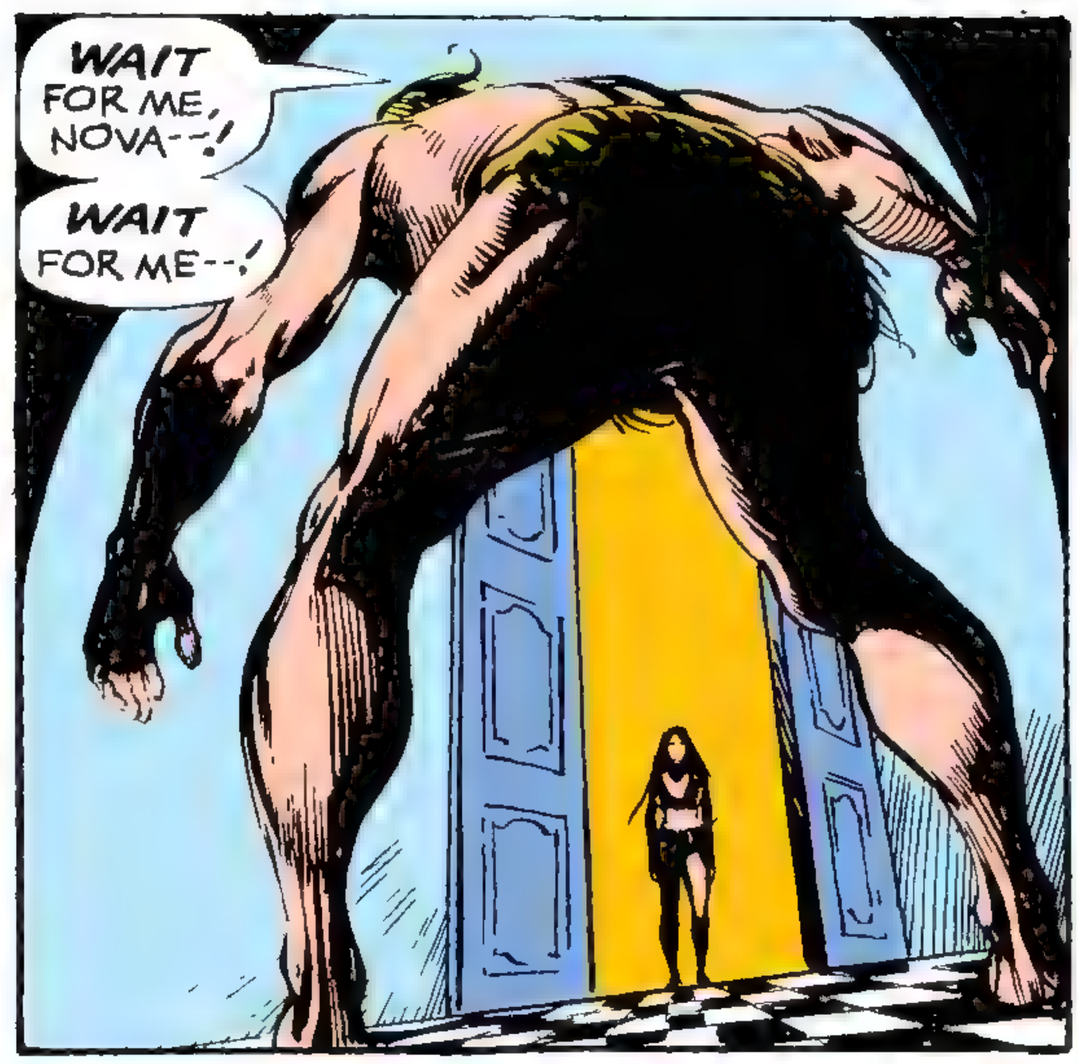

TAKE MY HANDS...
PUT MY HANDS OFF...
...ROUND HER THROAT...
...LET HER THROAT GO...
...DOWN IN THE WATER...
...GET OUT OF MY HEAD...
...UNTIL SHE...


...DIES!!
NO--!

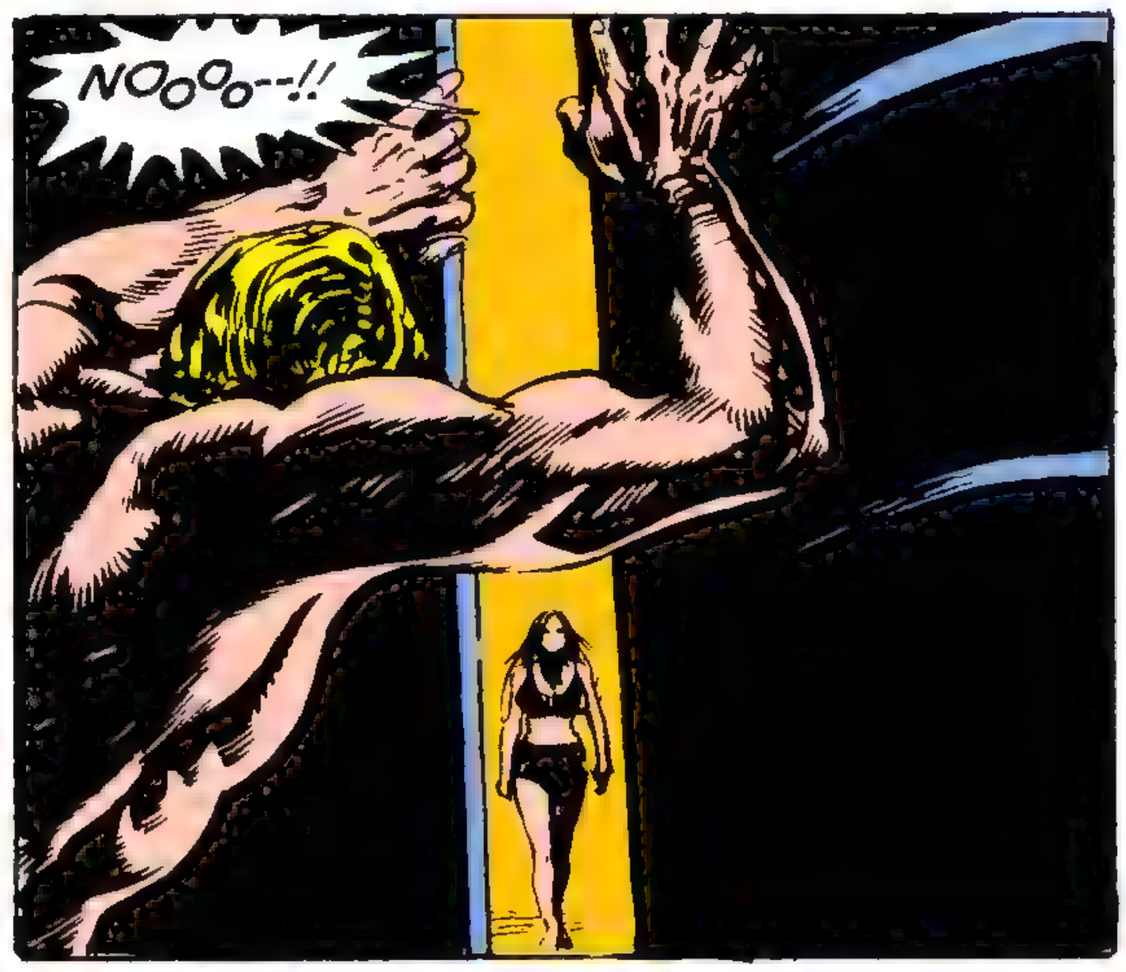
NOOOO--!!

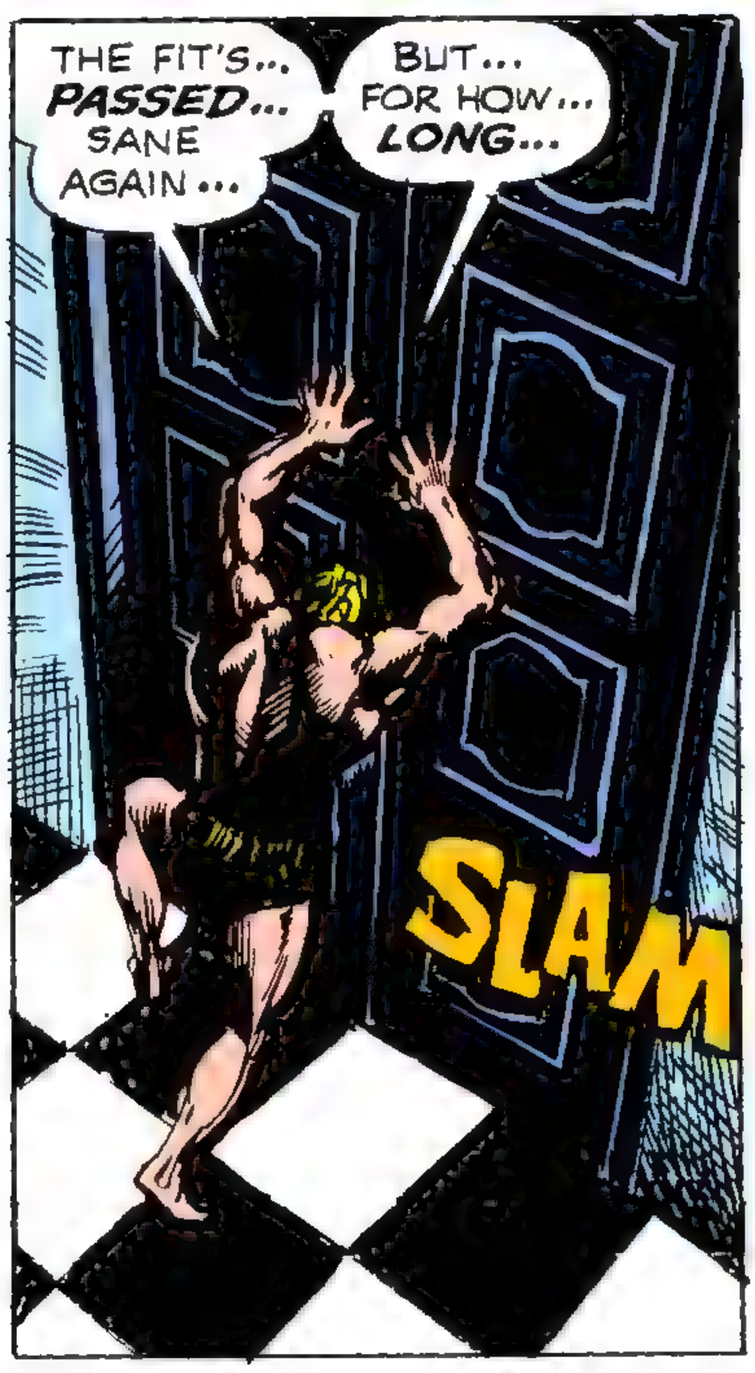

NOVA...KEEP AWAY FROM HER THROAT...HER BARE THROAT SO SOFT IN THE WATER. UNTIL YOU-- GET OUT--!
GET AWAY, NOVA!!
GET OUT--!!
GET OUT OF MY HEAD!!

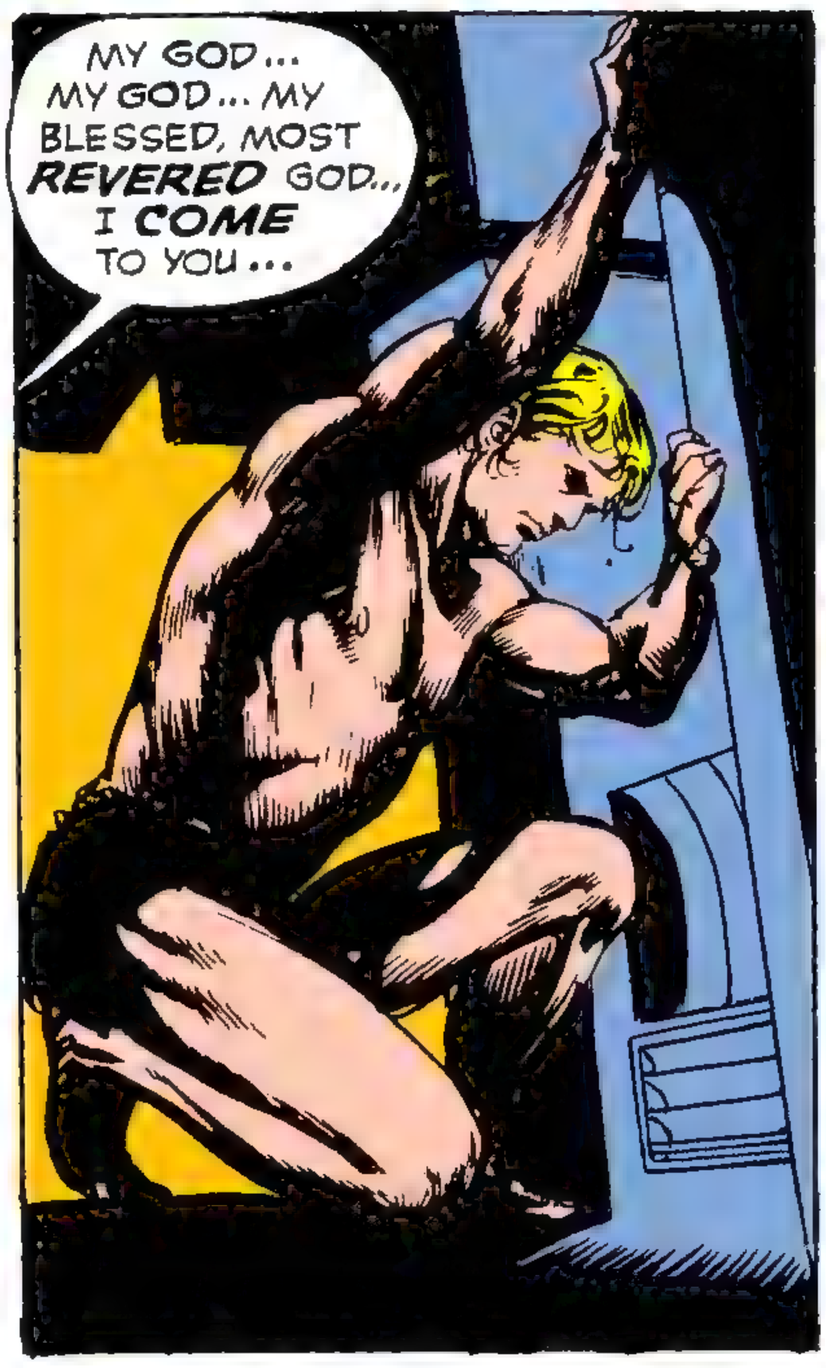

STAY AWAY, NOVA--!
I CAN'T CONTROL MY... THROAT... WATER... DIE...

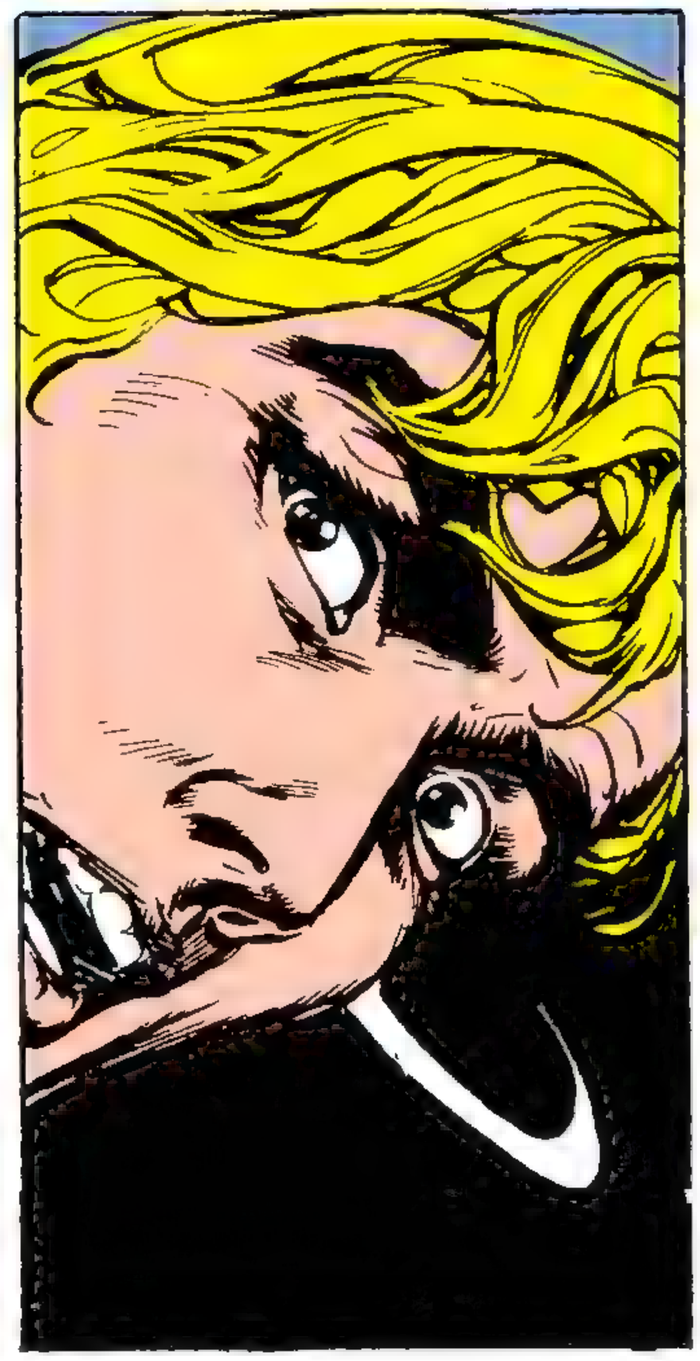

WAIT FOR ME, NOVA--!
WAIT FOR ME--!

I MUST KILL YOU, NOVA--!!
I MUST--


NOOOO--!!


THE FIT'S... PASSED... SANE AGAIN...
BUT... FOR HOW... LONG...
SLAM


MY GOD... MY GOD... MY BLESSED, MOST REVERED GOD... I COME TO YOU...

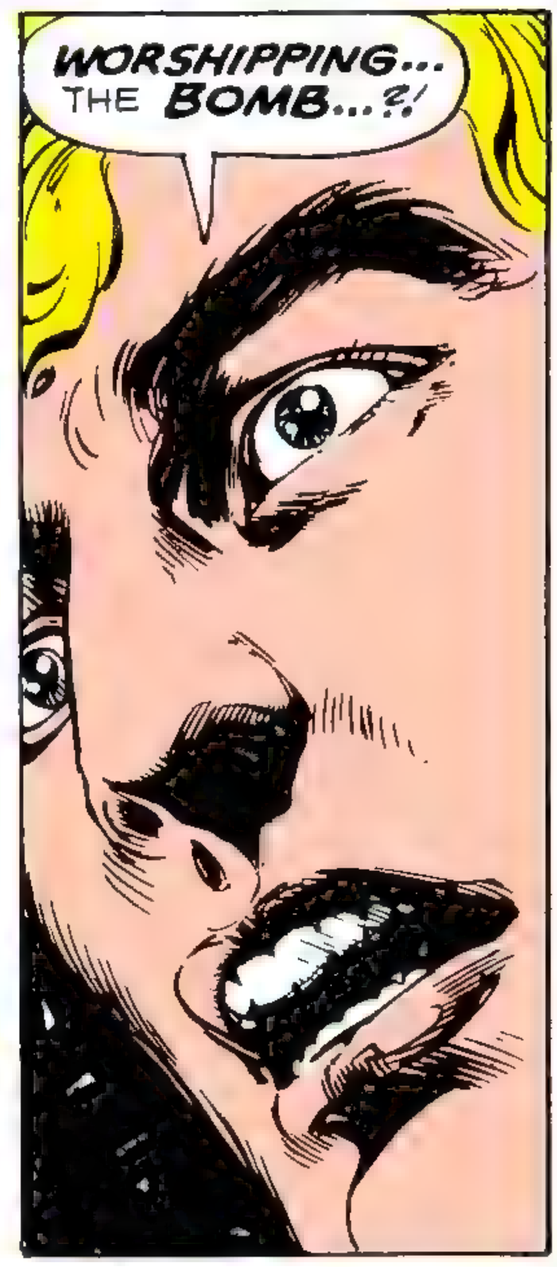


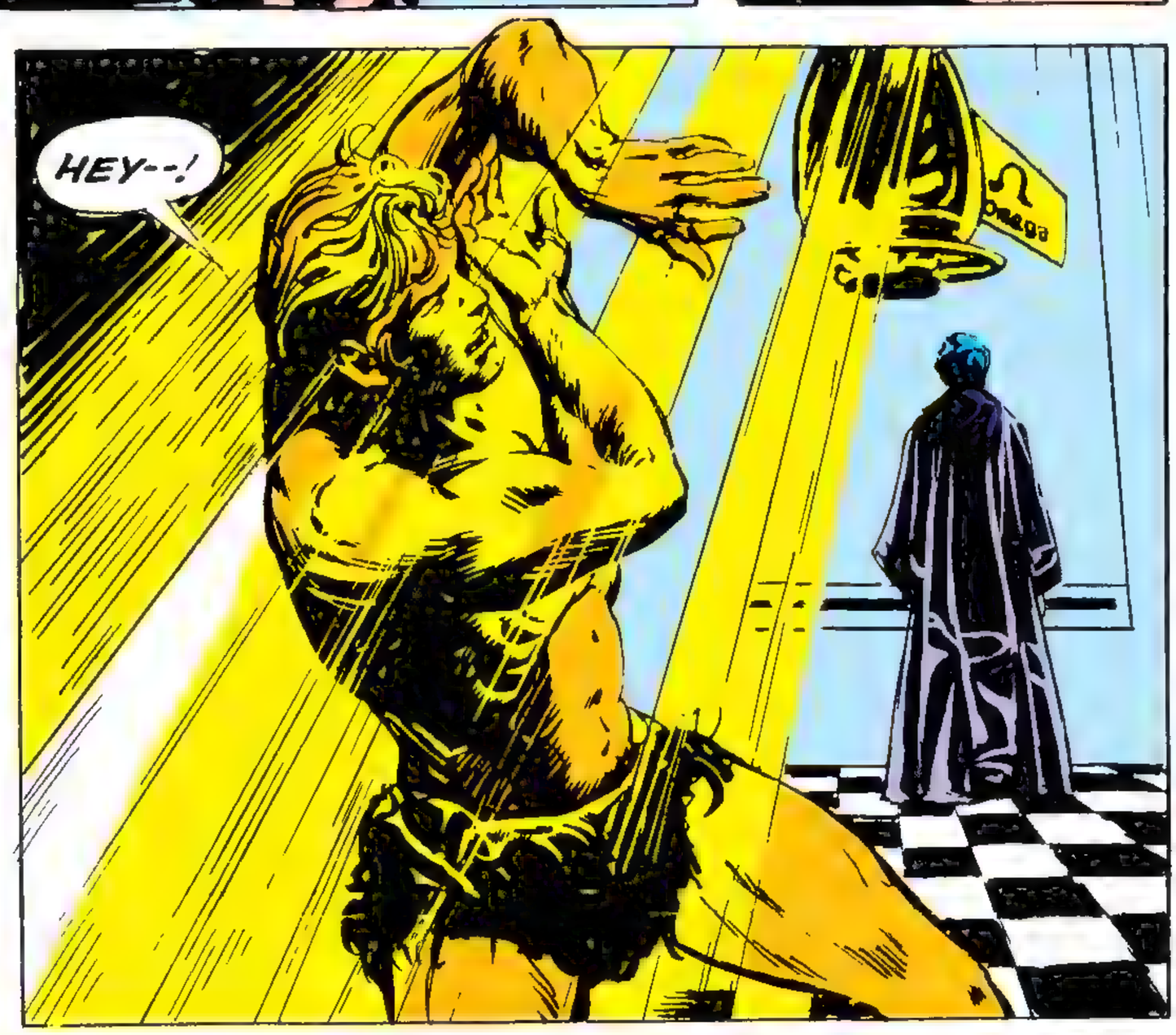
I COME TO YOU ON BENT KNEES...
A CATHEDRAL...

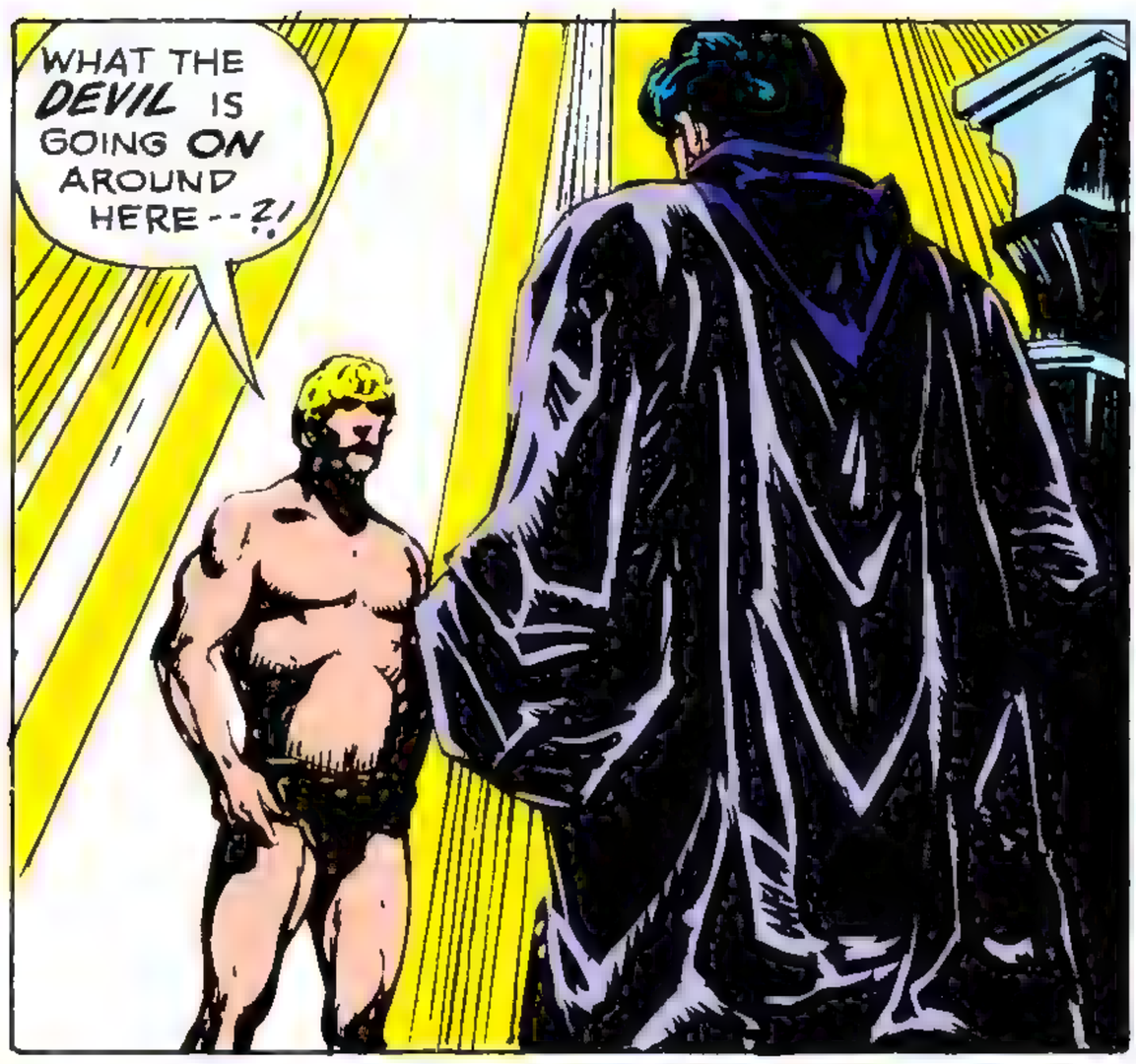
I COME TO YOU, AND I REVEAL MY INMOST SELF UNTO YOU WHO ART MY GOD!

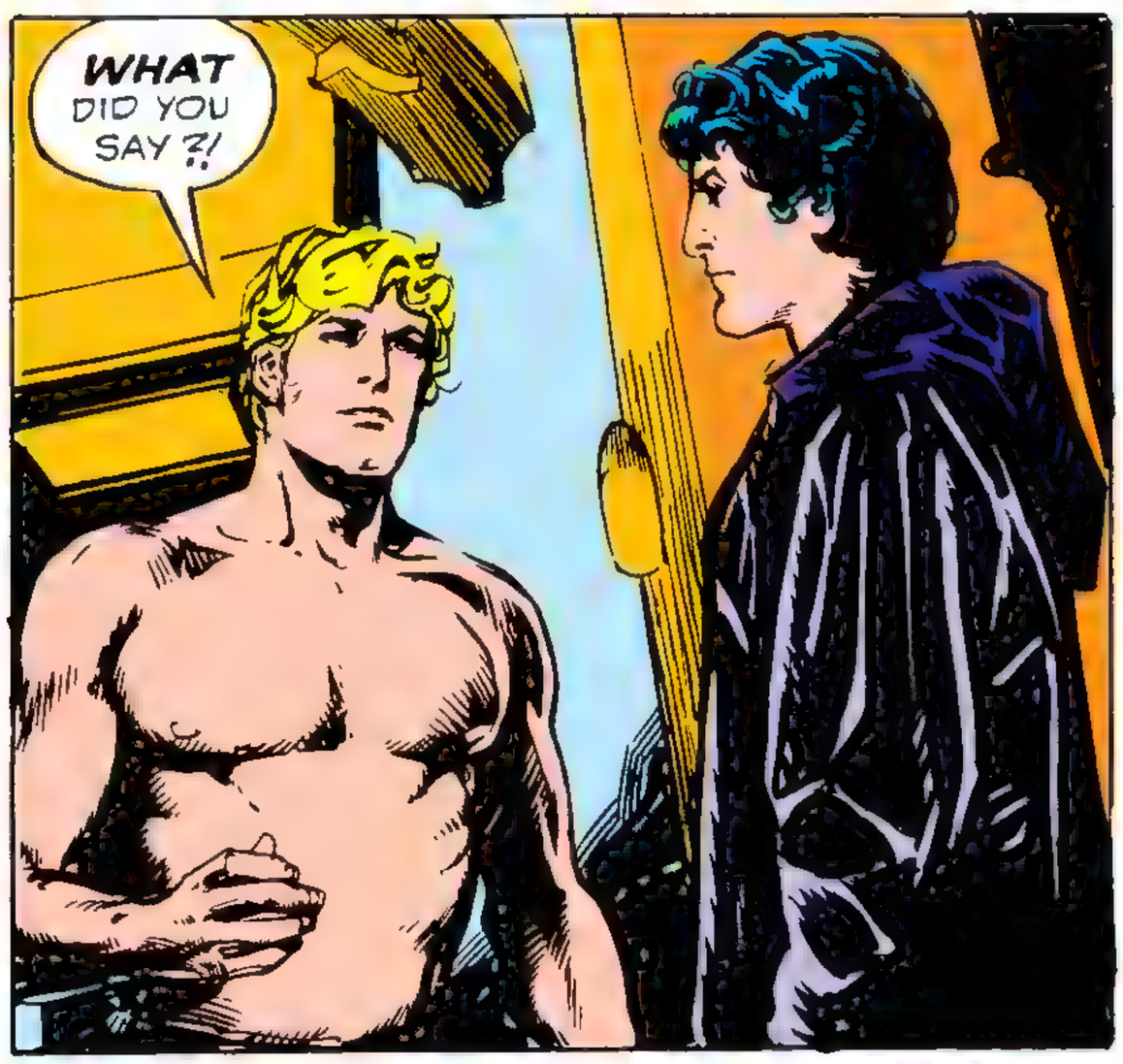
HIS... GOD--!

A alpha
Ω omega


WORSHIPPING... THE BOMB...?!

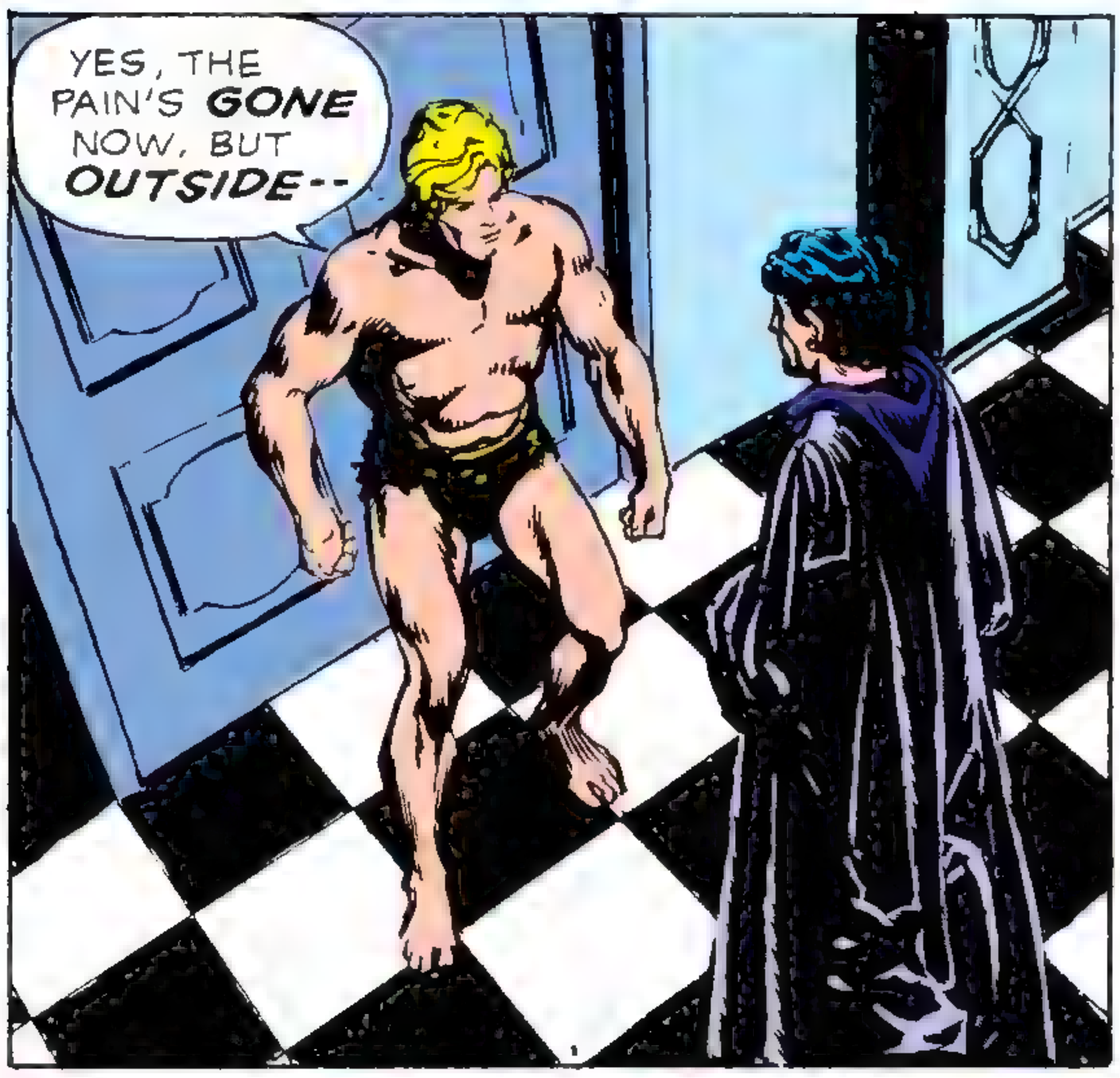

HEY--!
Ω omega

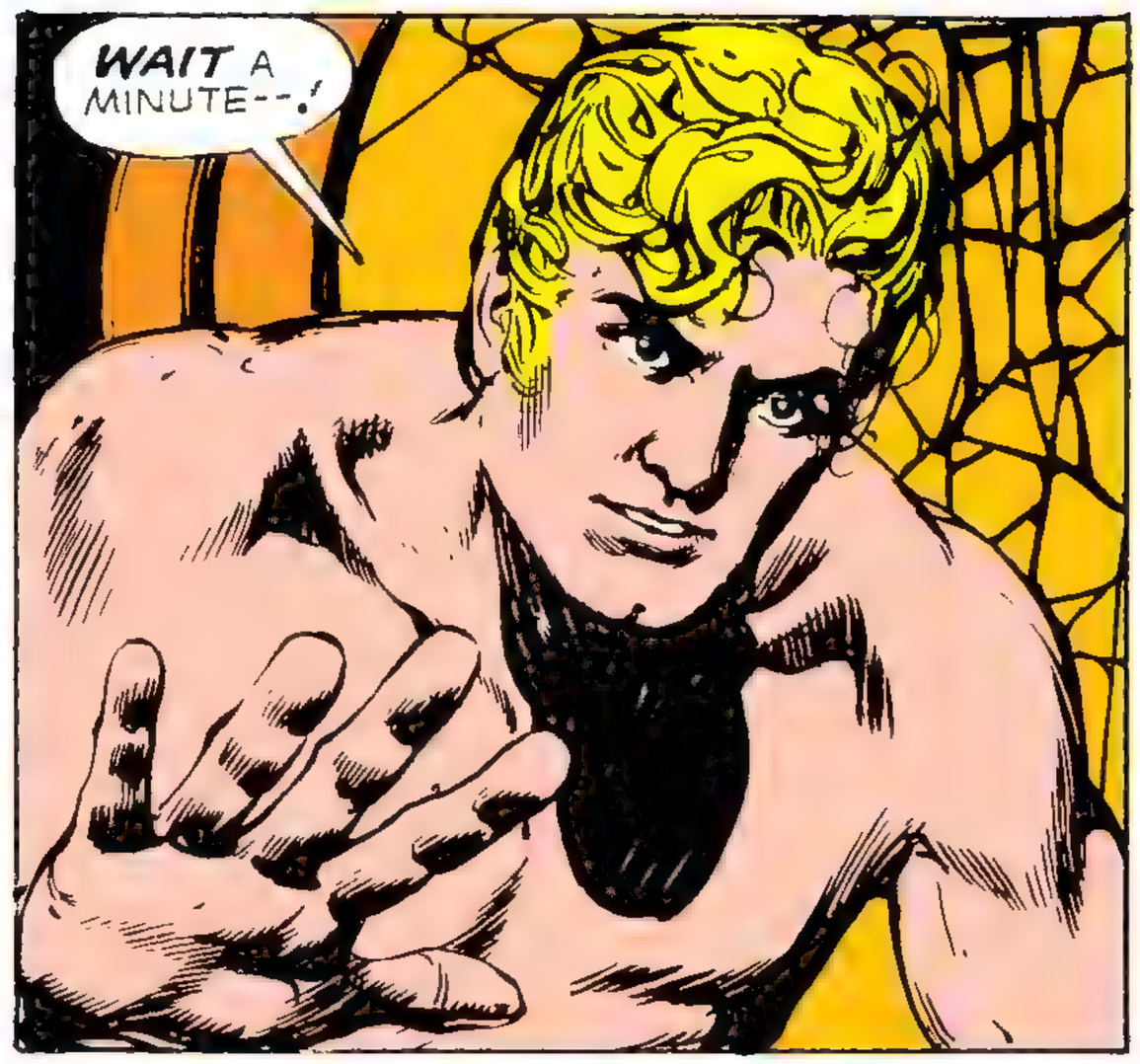

WHAT THE DEVIL IS GOING ON AROUND HERE--?!


WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

WHAT D'YOU MEAN THERE'S NO POINT IN WORRYING ABOUT HER--?
WILL SHE BE HARMED?

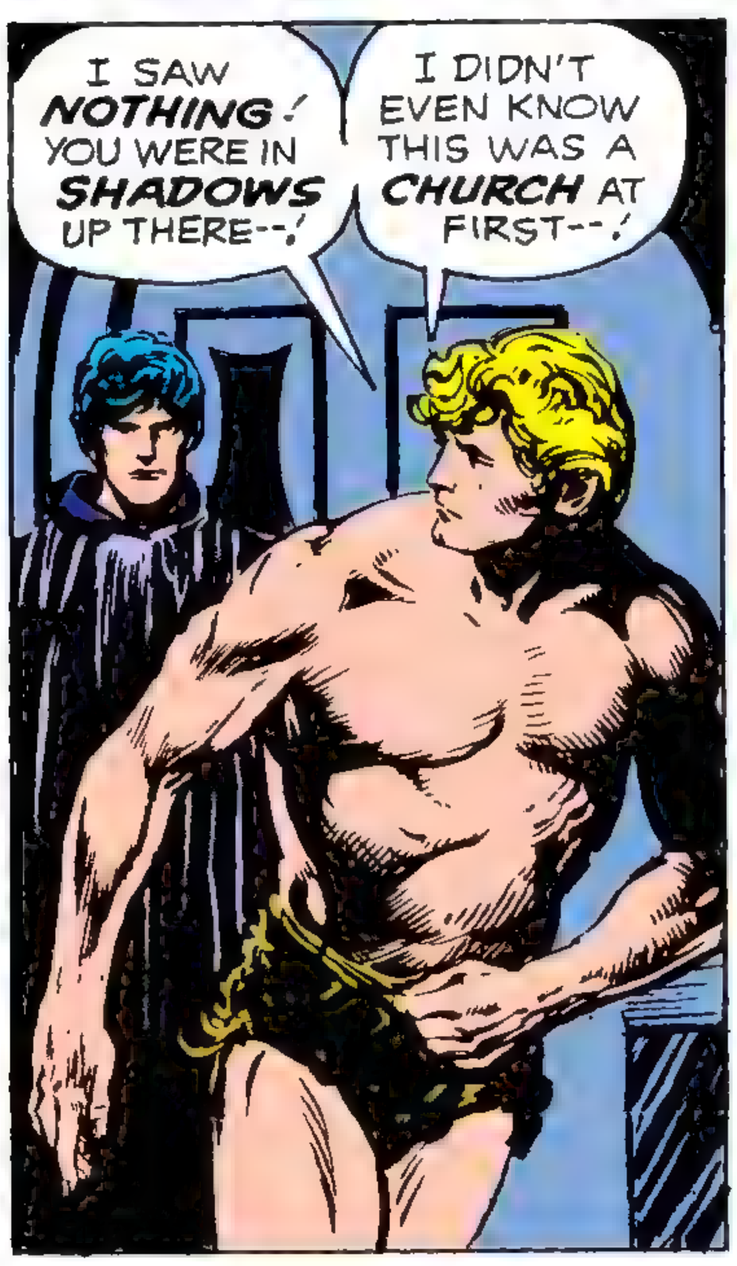
YEAH? WELL, MAYBE NOT PHYSICALLY-- BUT YOU CAN HURT UP HERE.
I'VE ALREADY FELT IT.

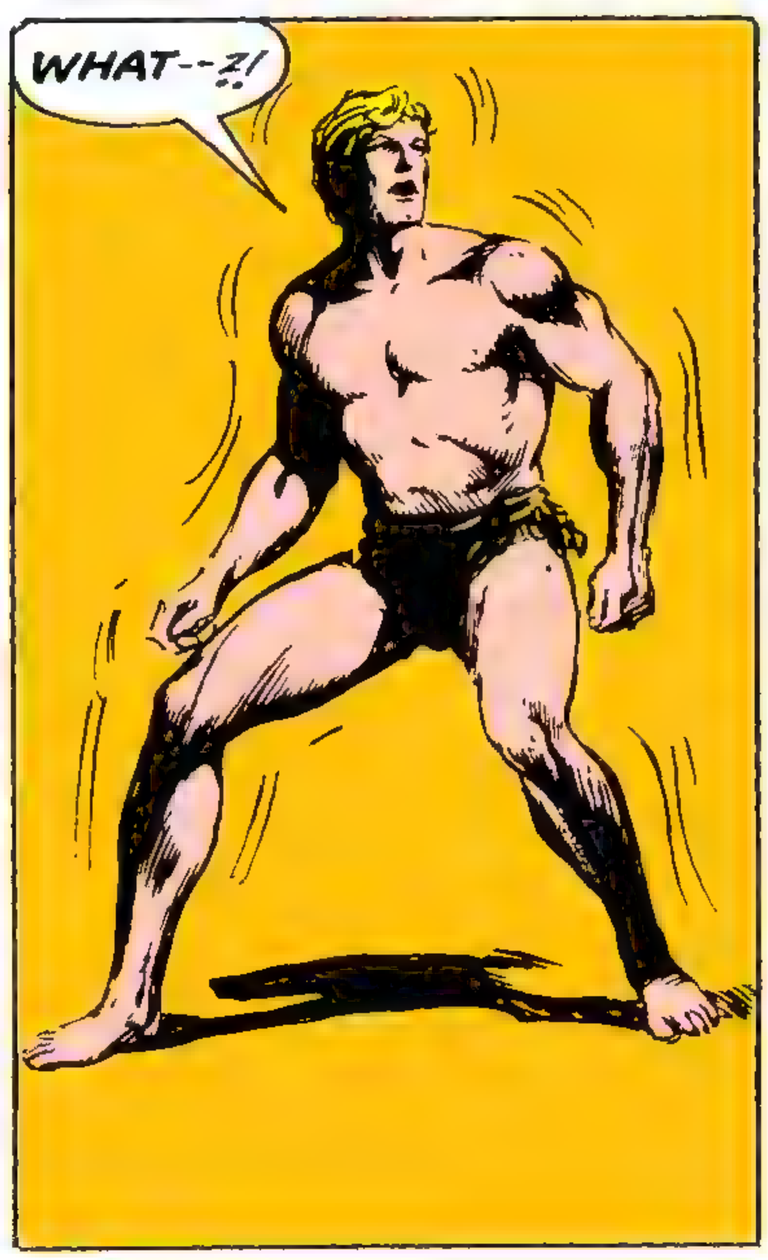

YES, THE PAIN'S GONE NOW, BUT OUTSIDE--


WAIT A MINUTE--!

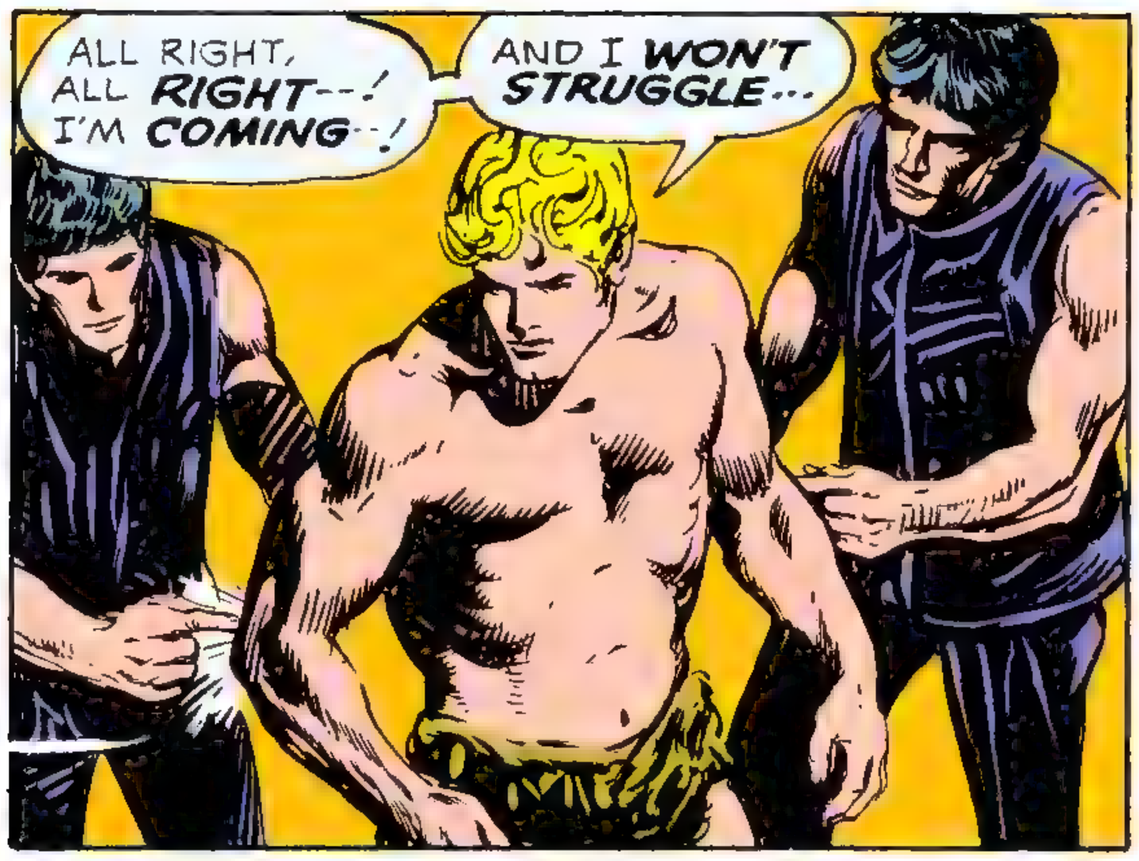
YOUR LIPS... AREN'T MOVING...

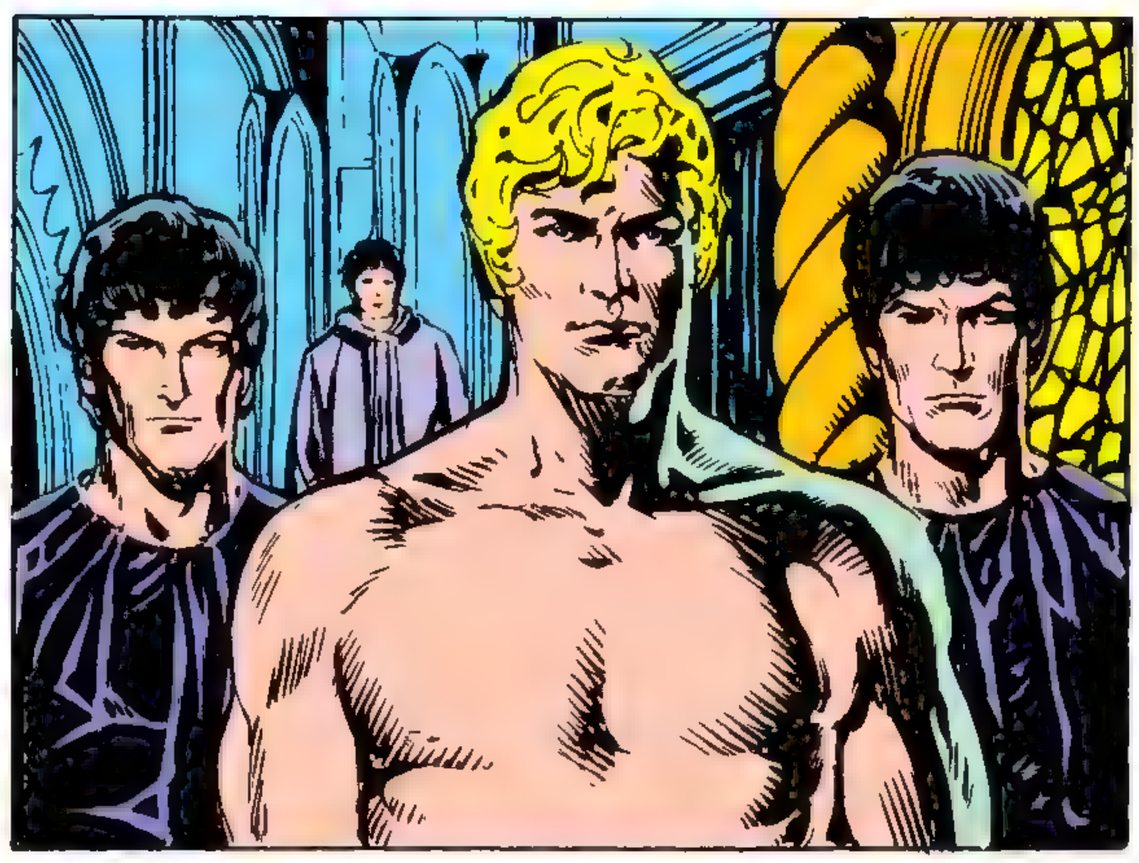
YOUR LIPS DON'T MOVE, BUT I CAN HEAR--
NO, NOT HEAR... I KNOW--I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING--!

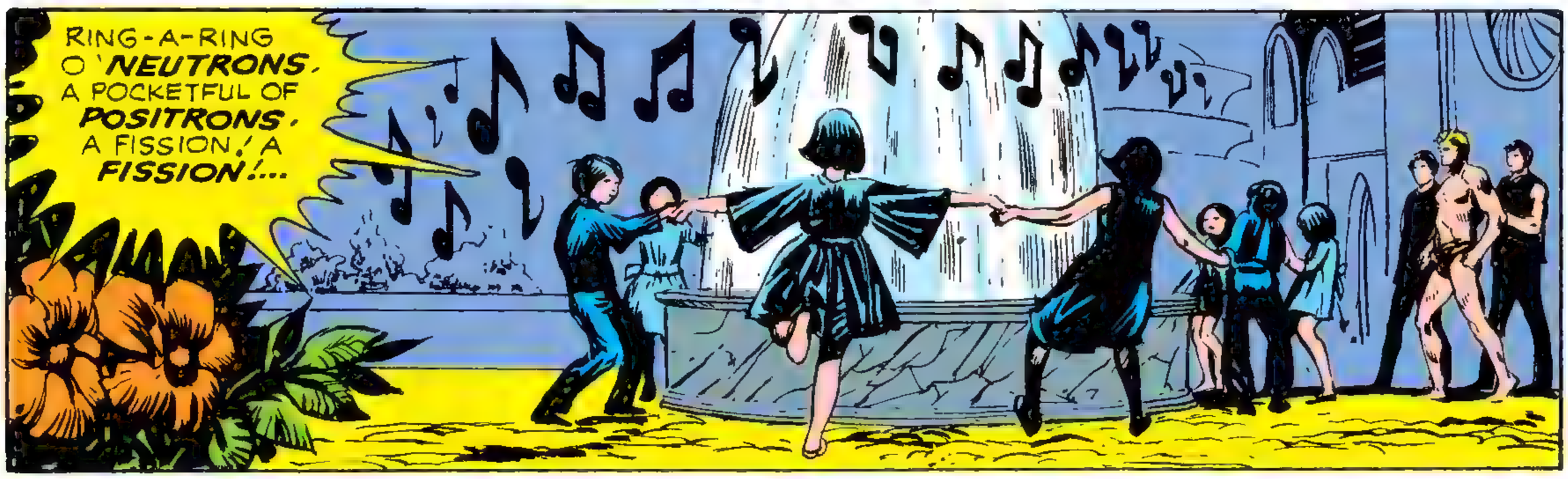

I SAW NOTHING! YOU WERE IN SHADOWS UP THERE--!
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THIS WAS A CHURCH AT FIRST--!

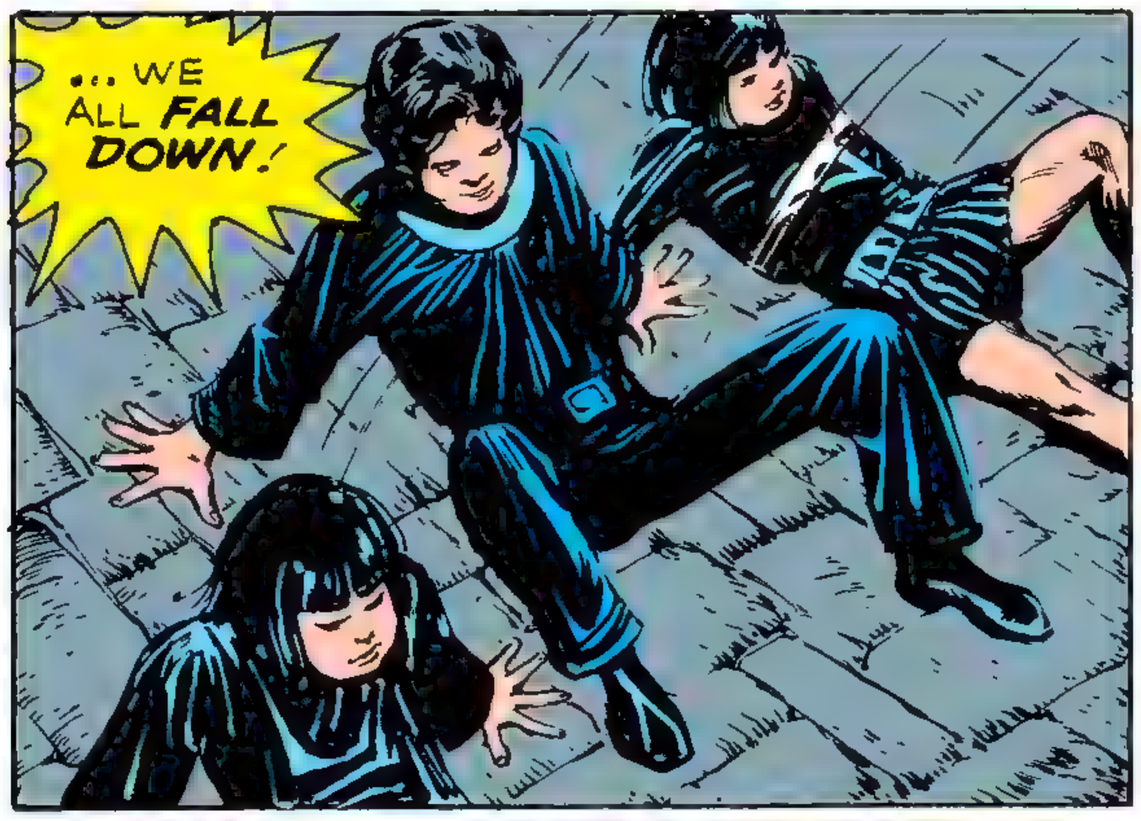

WHAT--?!

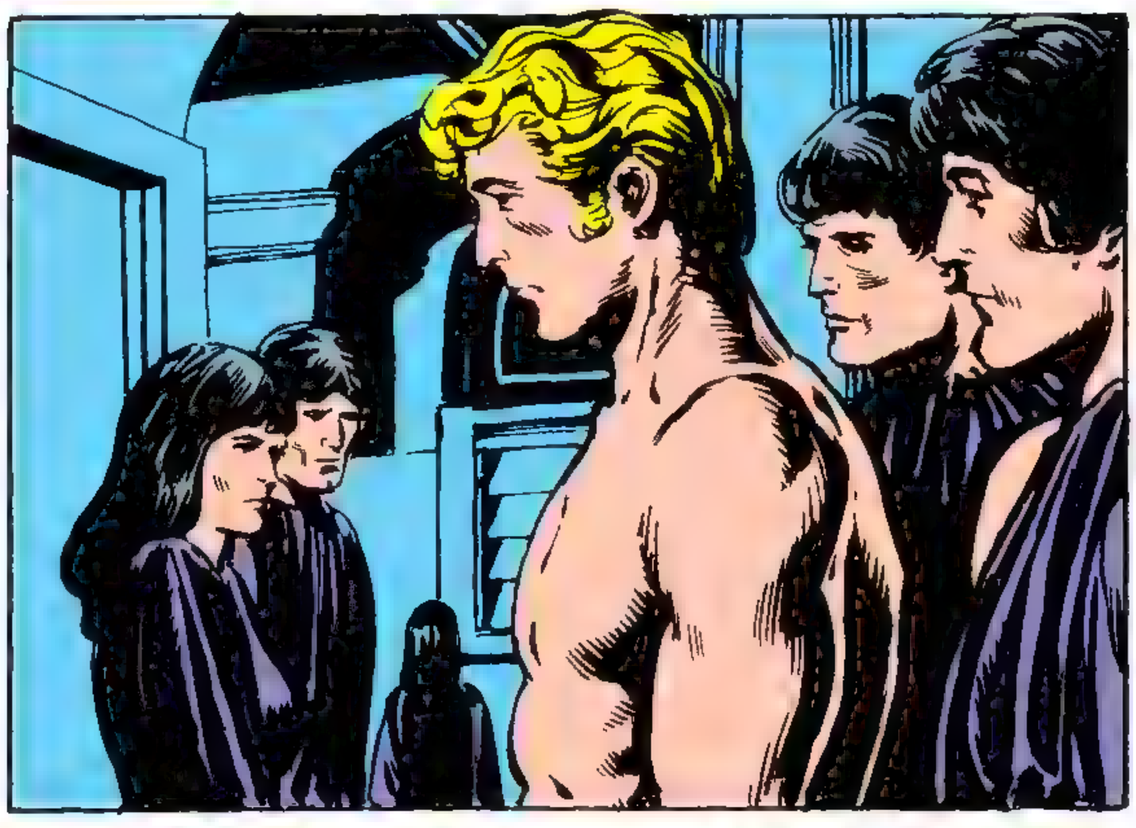
WHO--?!


ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT--! I'M COMING--!
AND I WON'T STRUGGLE...

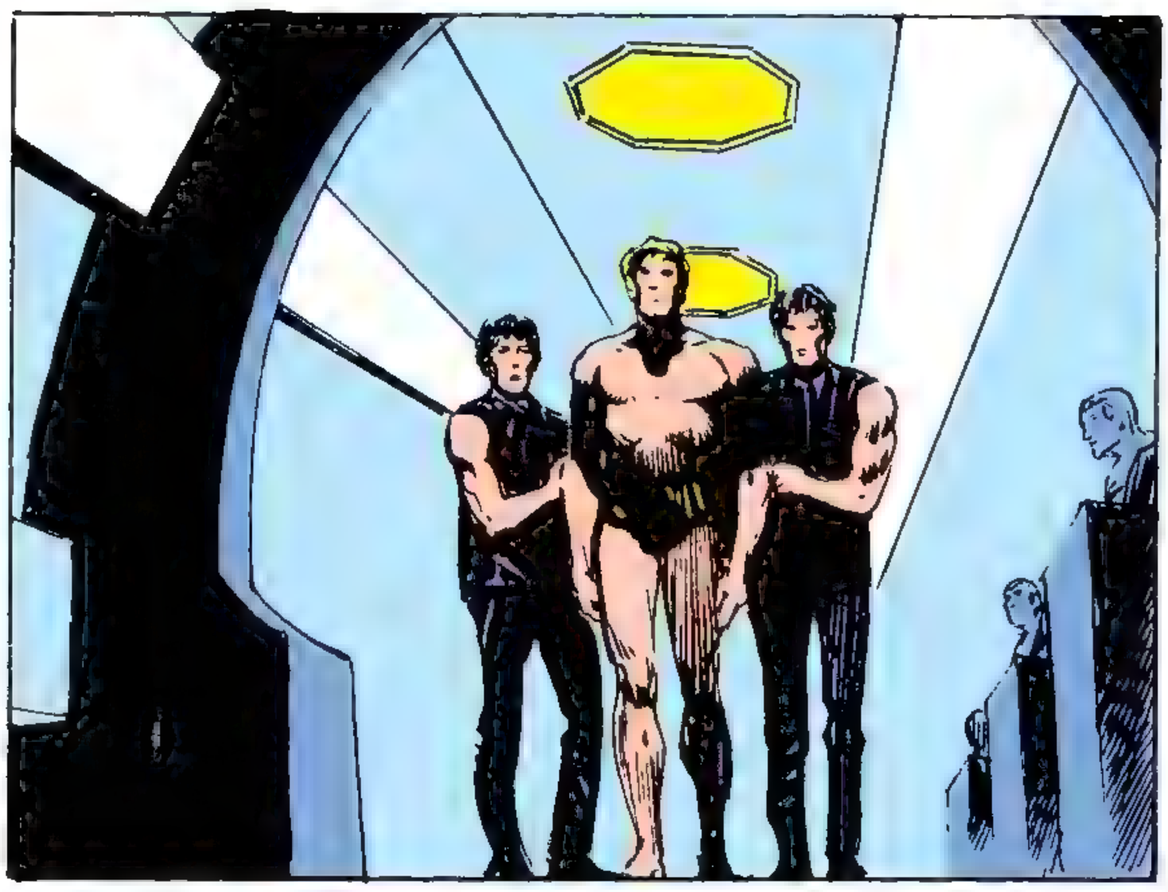


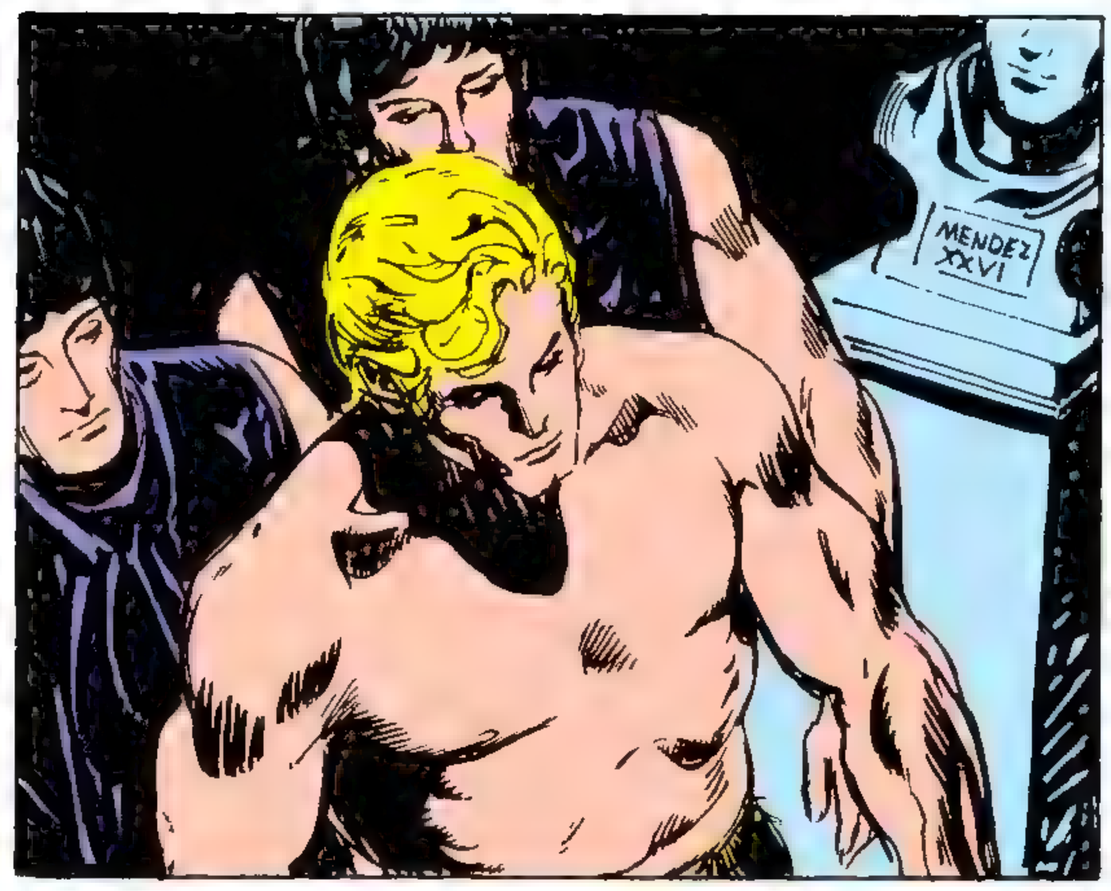

RING-A-RING O' NEUTRONS, A POCKETFUL OF POSITRONS, A FISSION! A FISSION!...

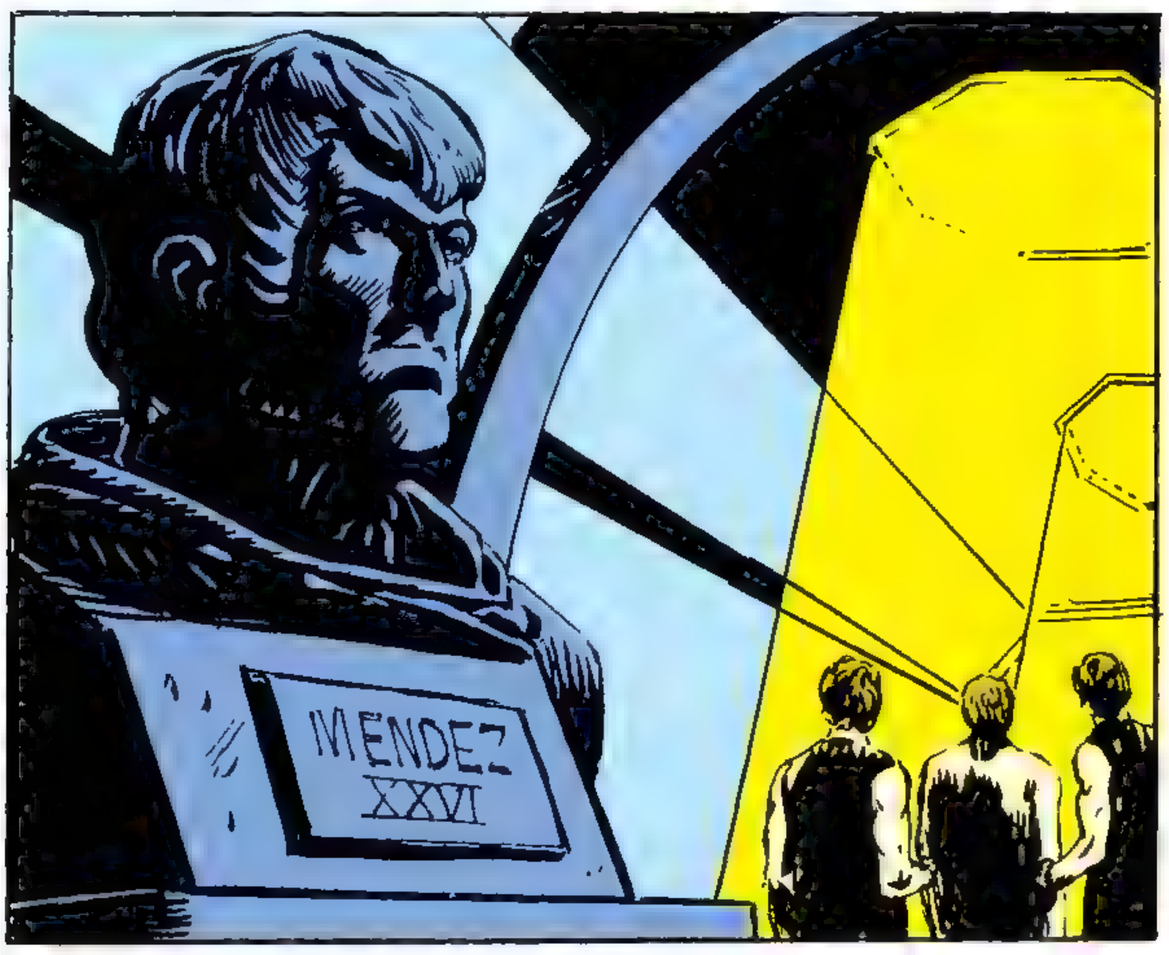

... WE ALL FALL DOWN!

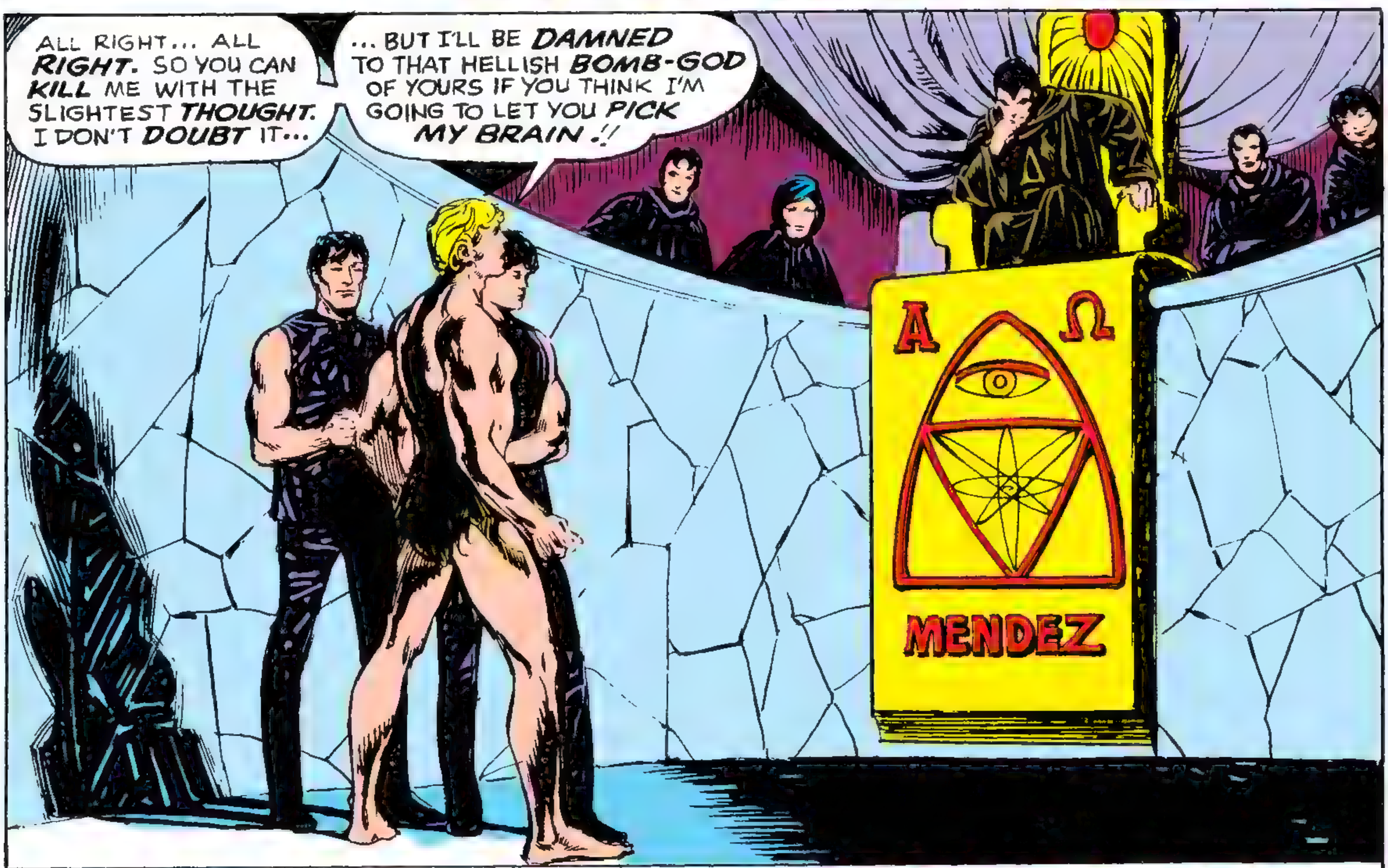


MENDEZ
2-2-V1

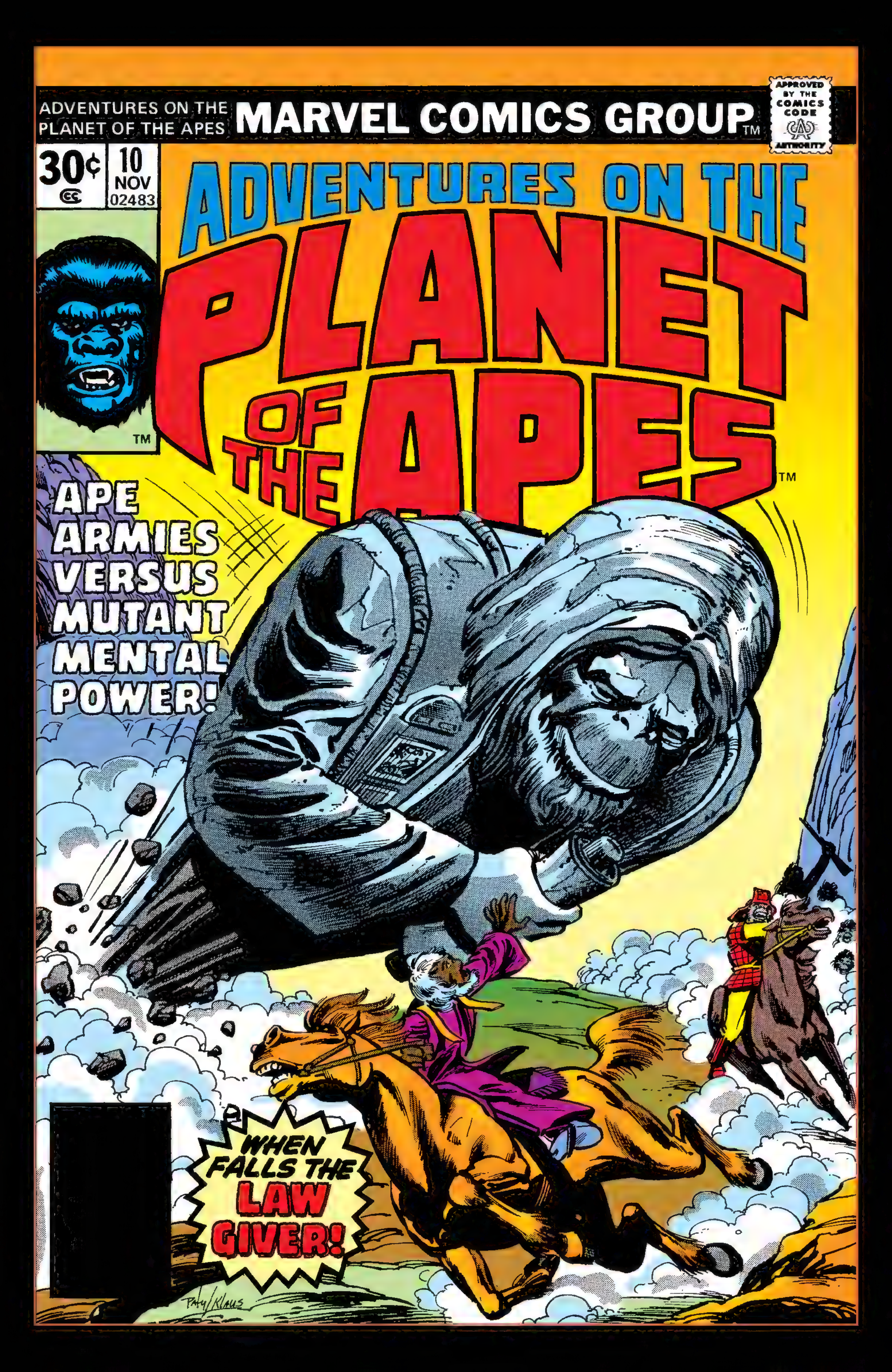








NEXT ISSUE: The UNHOLY INQUISITION!


ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES
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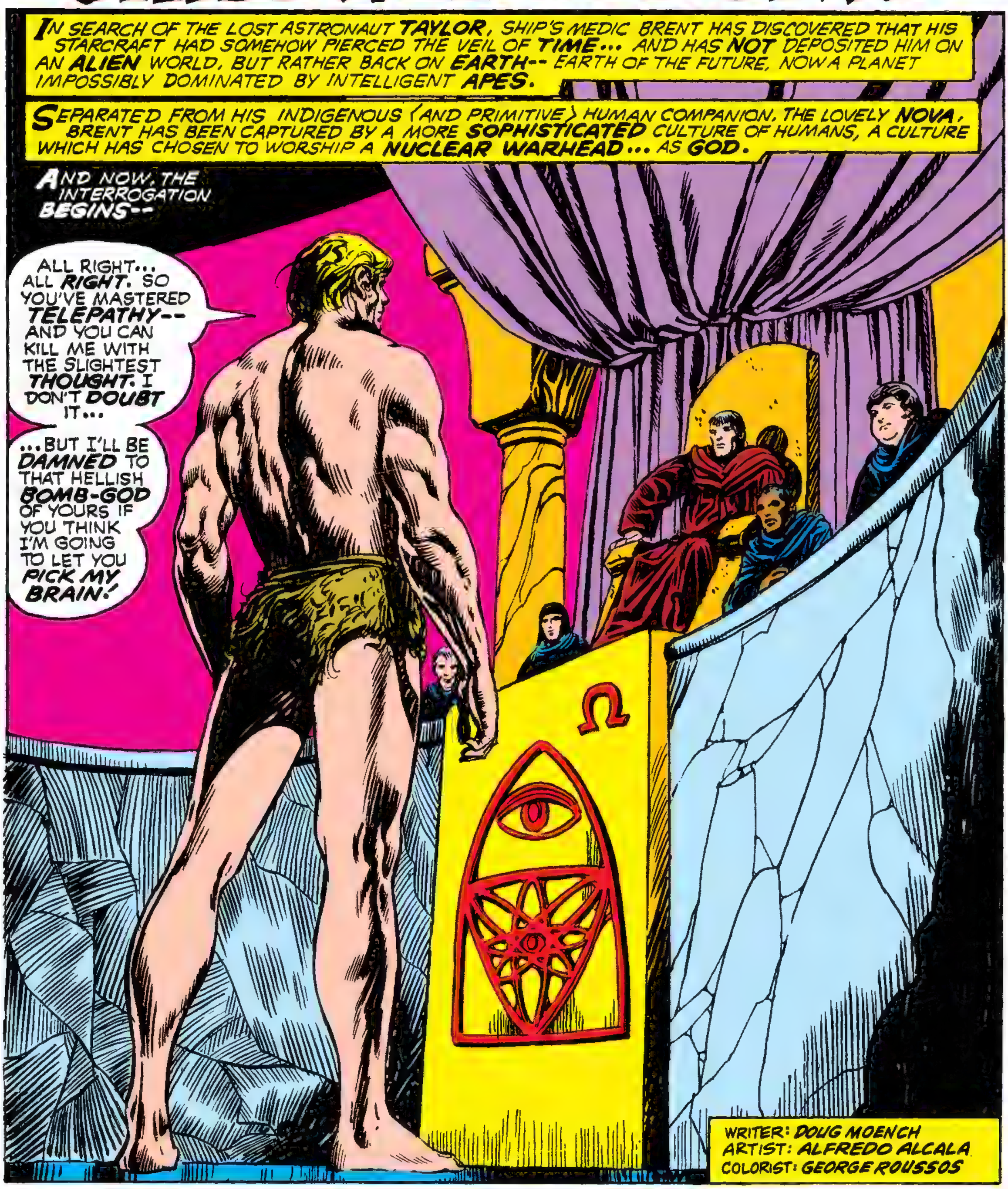
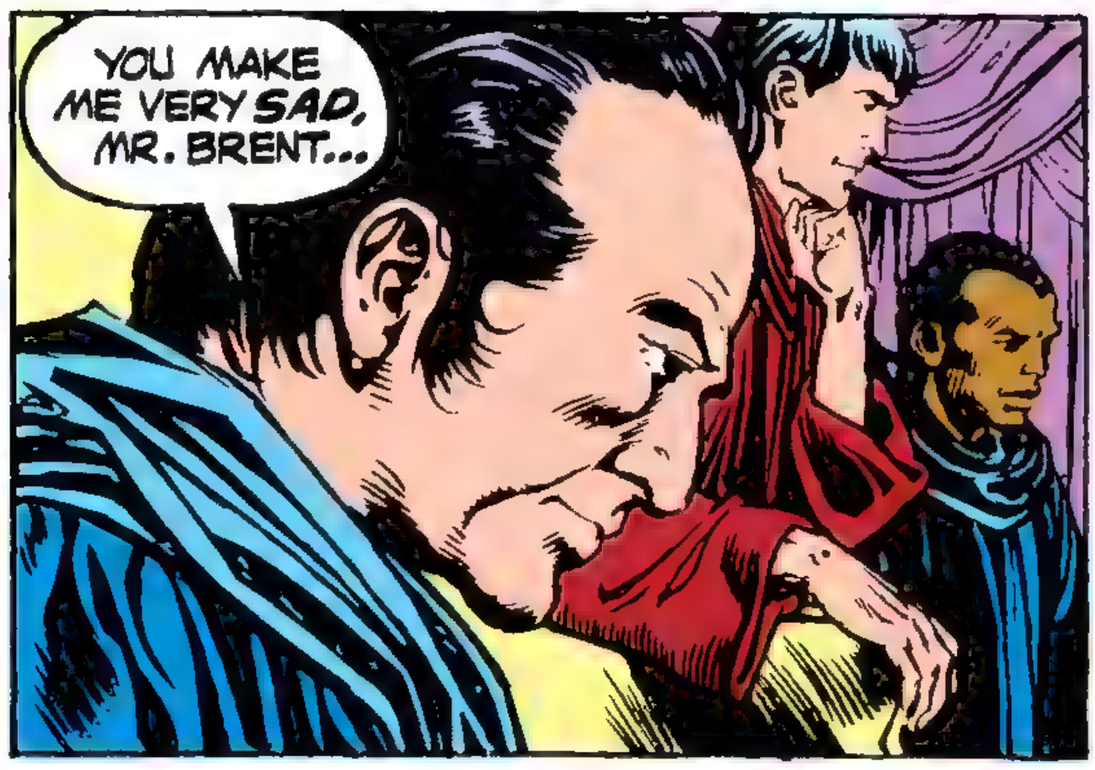
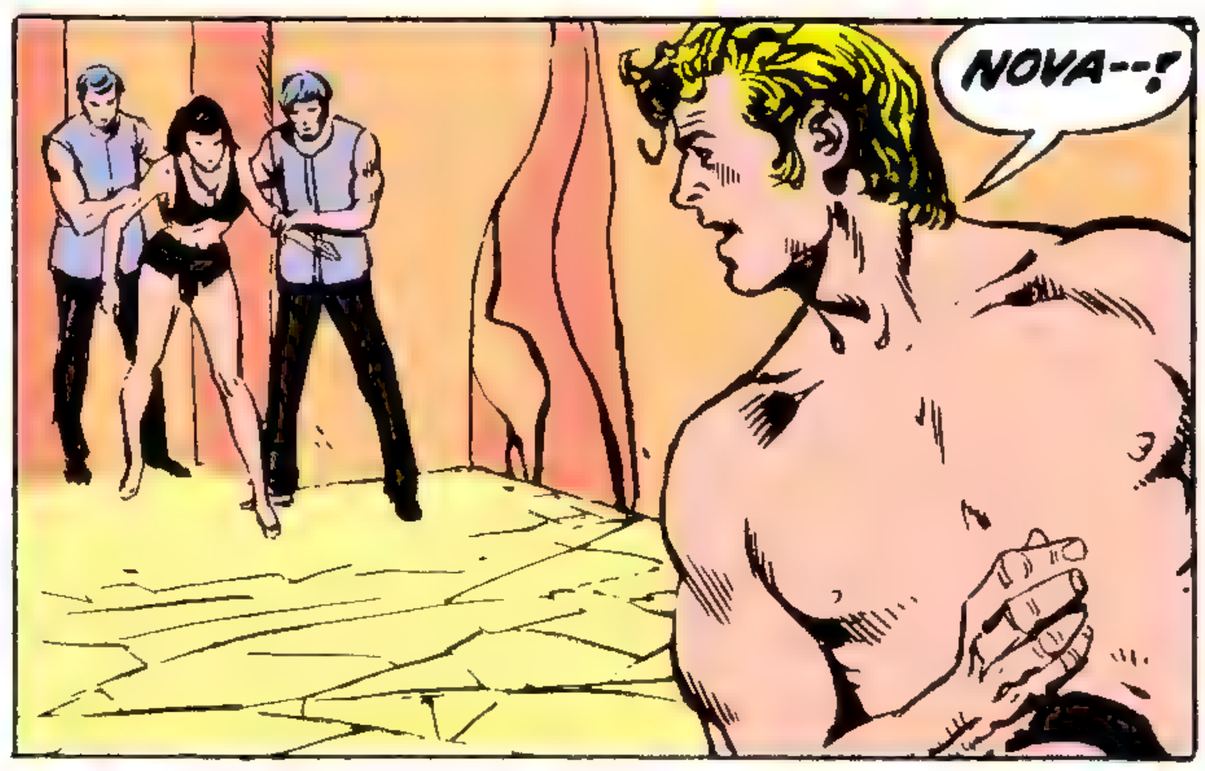
ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES™
APE ARMIES VERSUS MUTANT MENTAL POWER!
WHEN FALLS THE LAW GIVER!
PALY/KLAUS

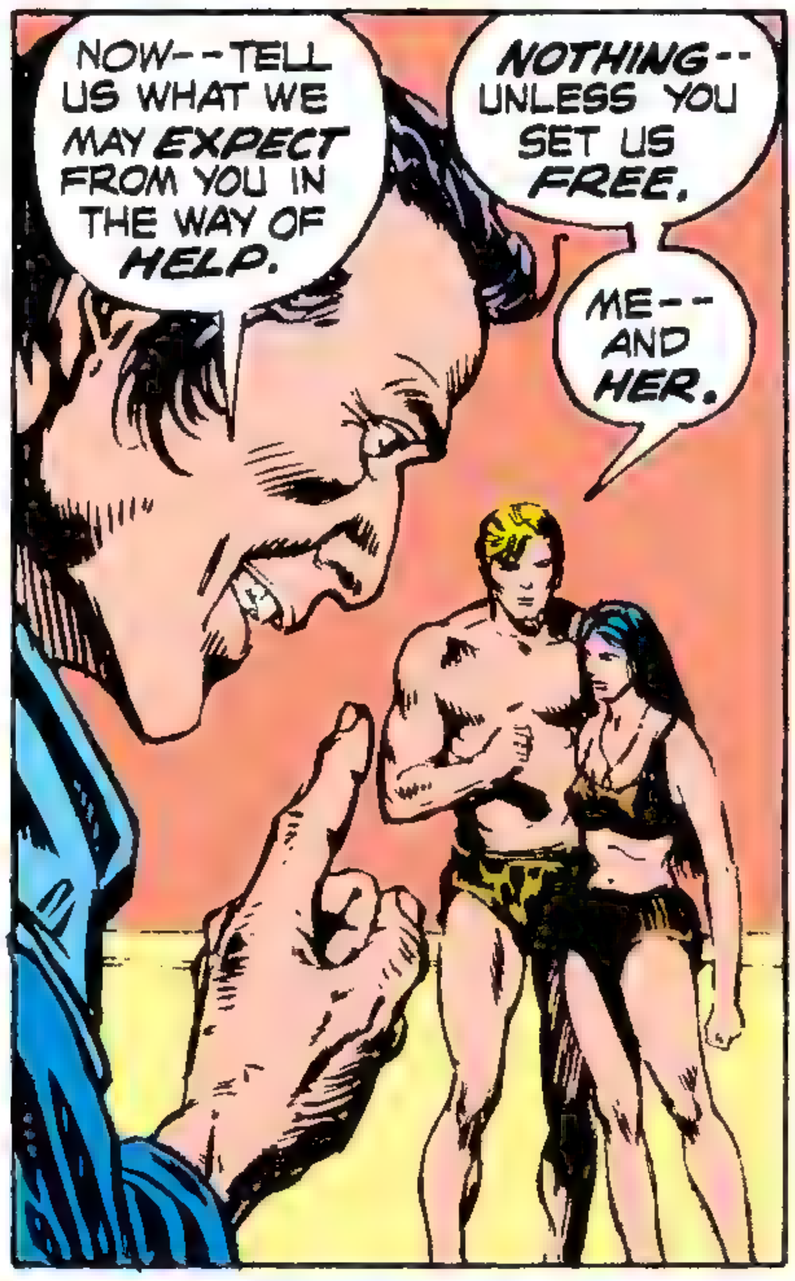
STAN LEE PRESENTS PLANET OF THE APES!™

"CHILDREN OF THE BOMB"

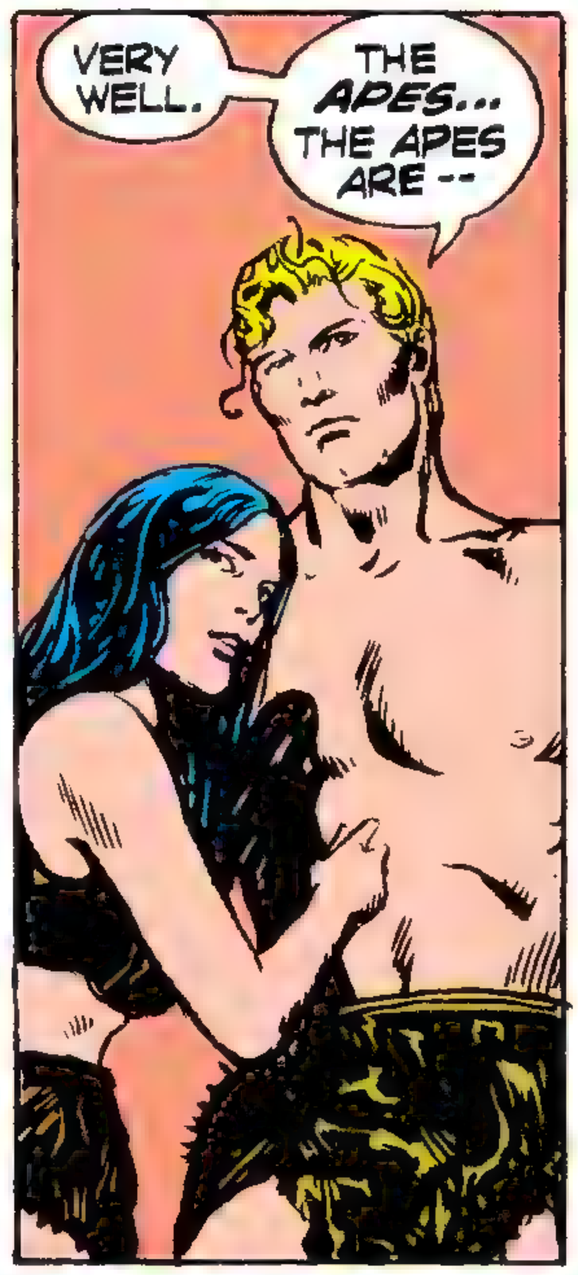


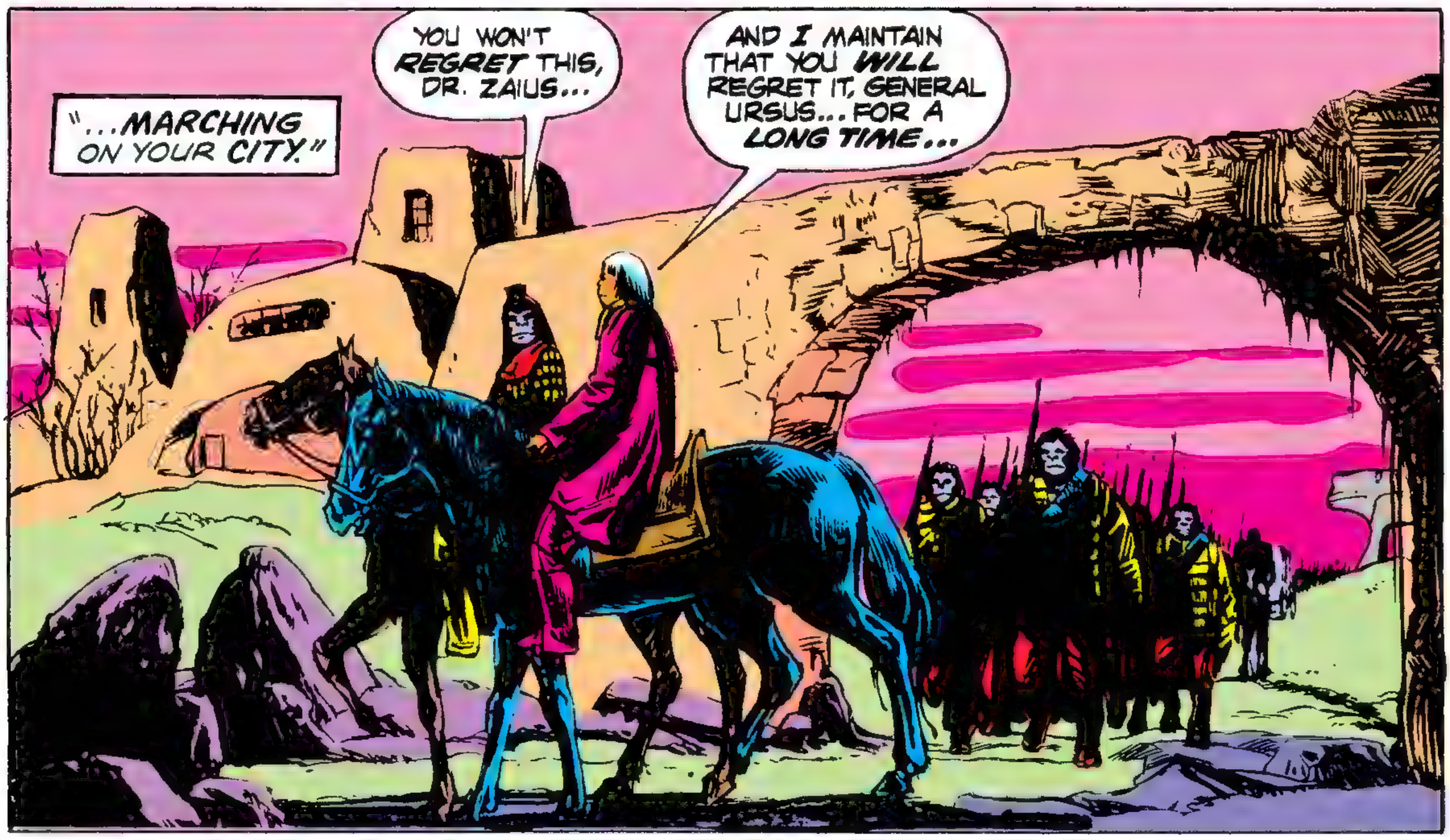

YOU MAKE ME VERY SAD, MR. BRENT...

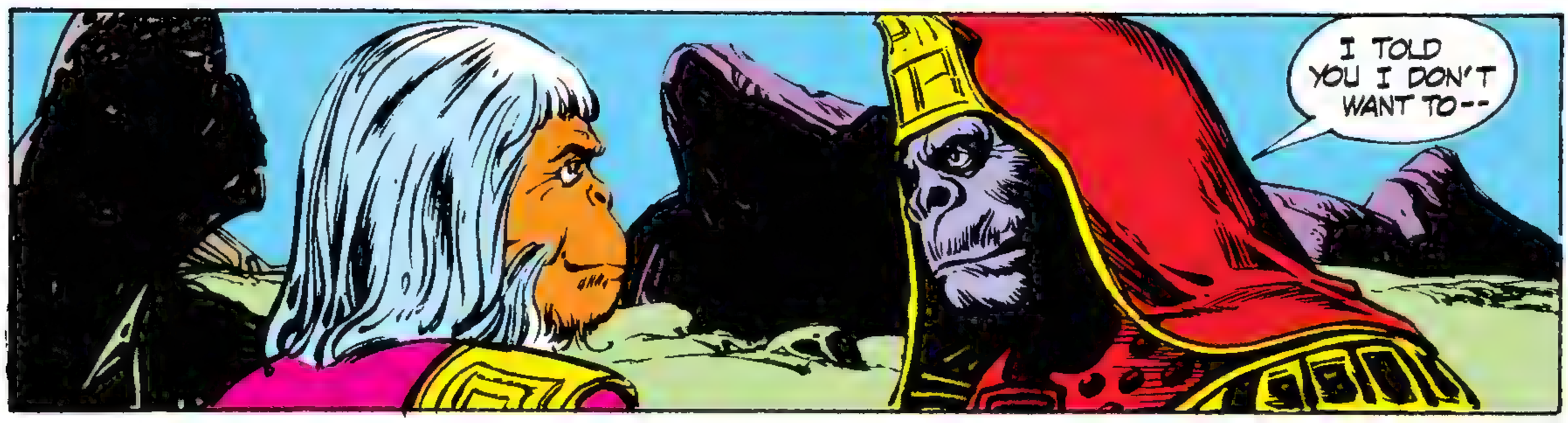

NOVA--!

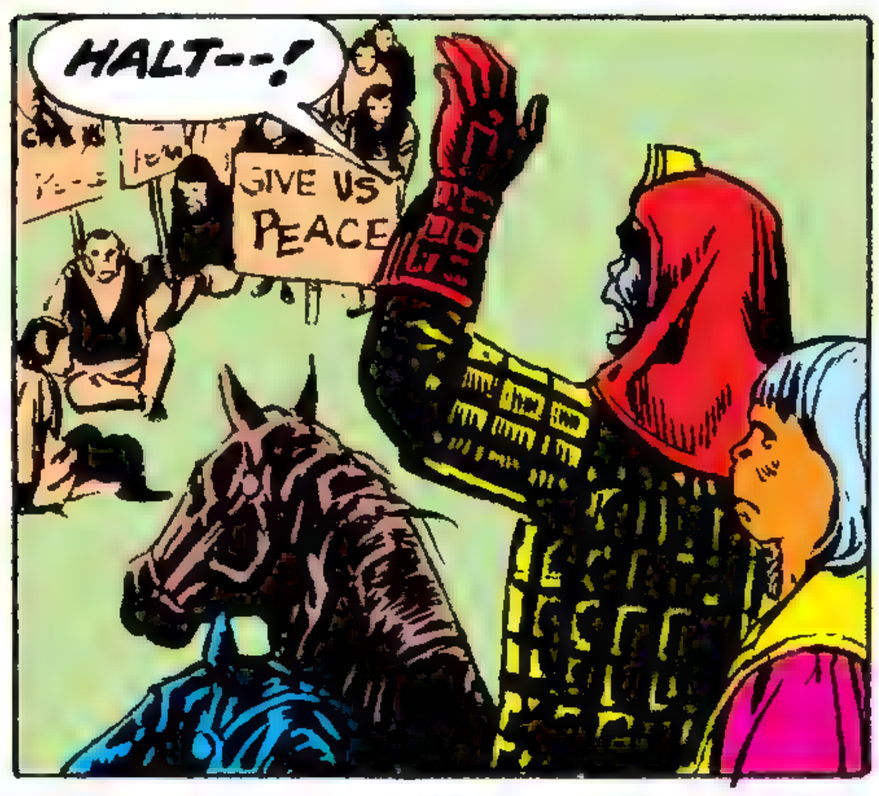

NOW--TELL US WHAT WE MAY EXPECT FROM YOU IN THE WAY OF HELP.
NOTHING--UNLESS YOU SET US FREE.
ME--AND HER.

YOU ARE FREE, MR. BRENT... FREE TO DO WHAT WE WILL.
NOW.
TELL US ABOUT THE APES, MR. BRENT--FOR THE LAST TIME...


VERY WELL.
THE APES... THE APES ARE --

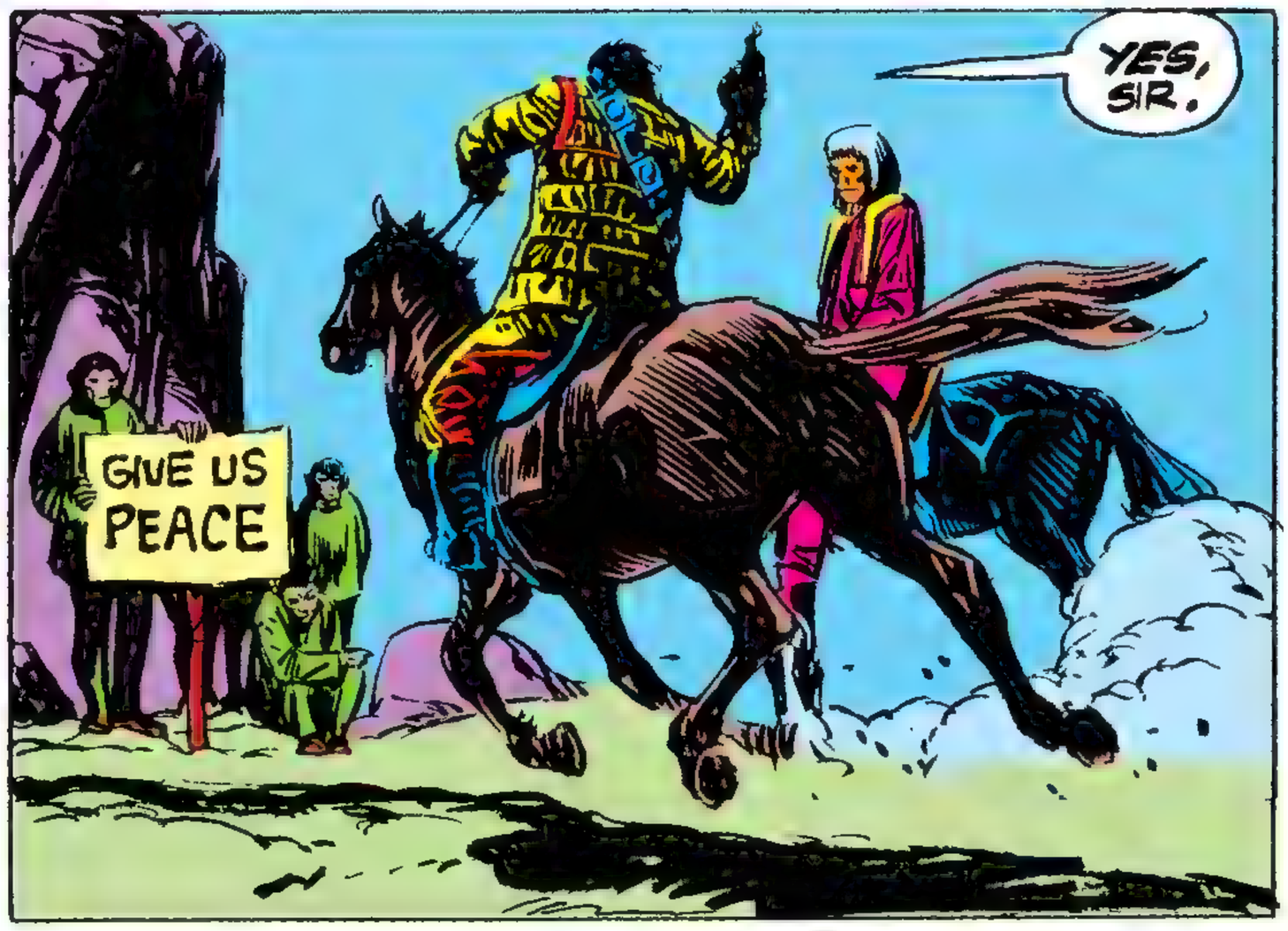

"...MARCHING ON YOUR CITY."
YOU WON'T REGRET THIS, DR. ZAIUS...
AND I MAINTAIN THAT YOU WILL REGRET IT, GENERAL URSUS... FOR A LONG TIME...


I TOLD YOU I DON'T WANT TO--


HALT--!
GIVE US PEACE

LEAVE THE ROAD, YOUNG ONES... PLEASE.
GIVE US PEACE

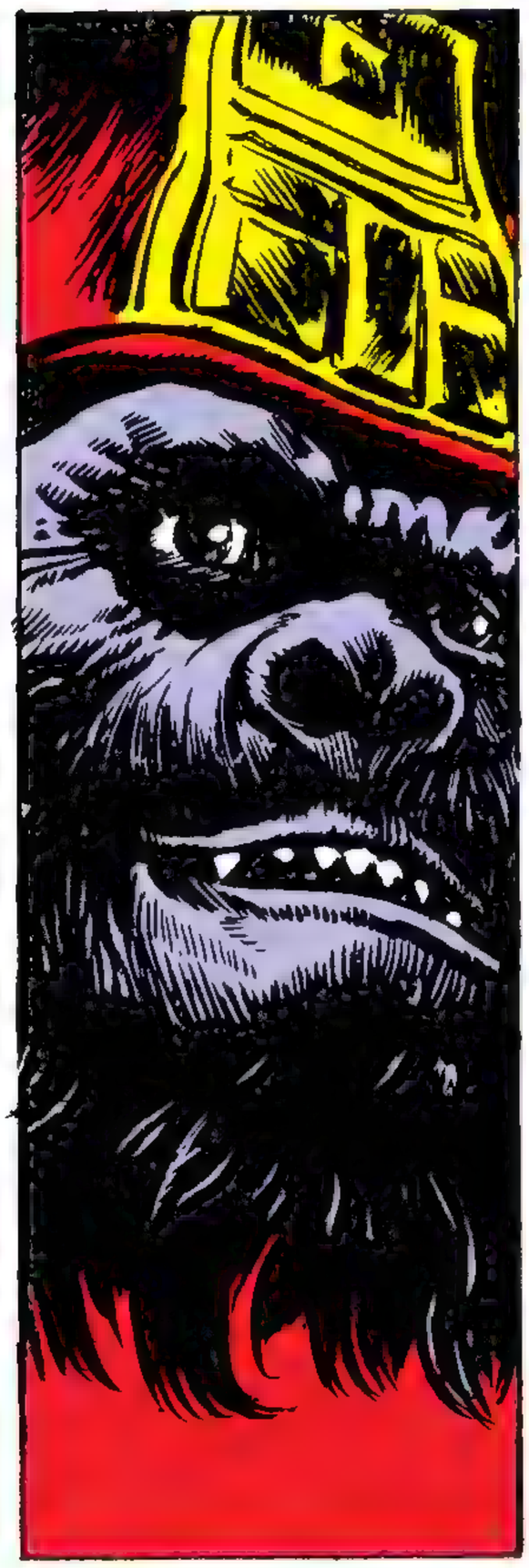
GET THEM OUT OF THE WAY!!

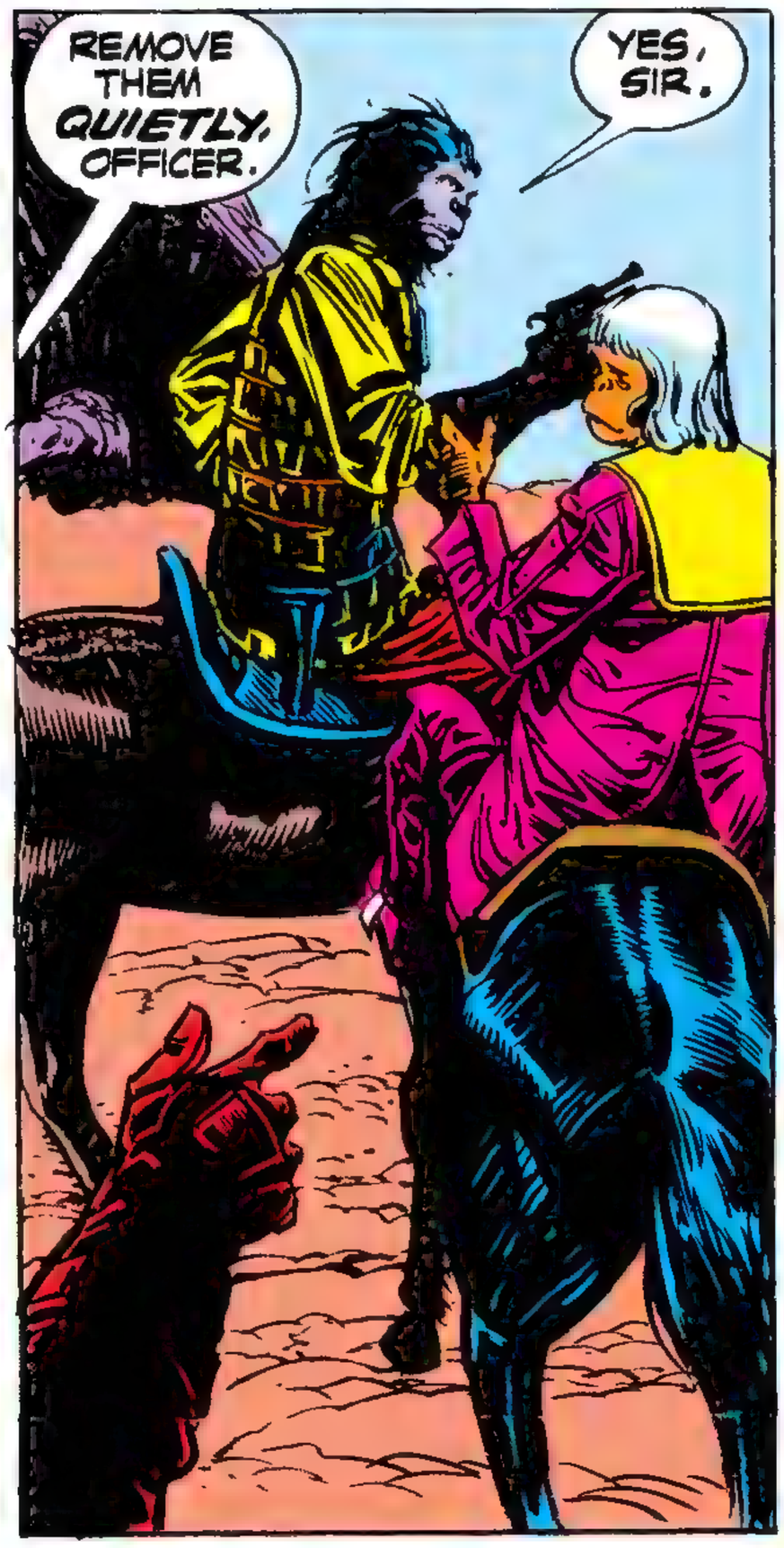

YES, SIR.
GIVE US PEACE

GIVE US
PEACE

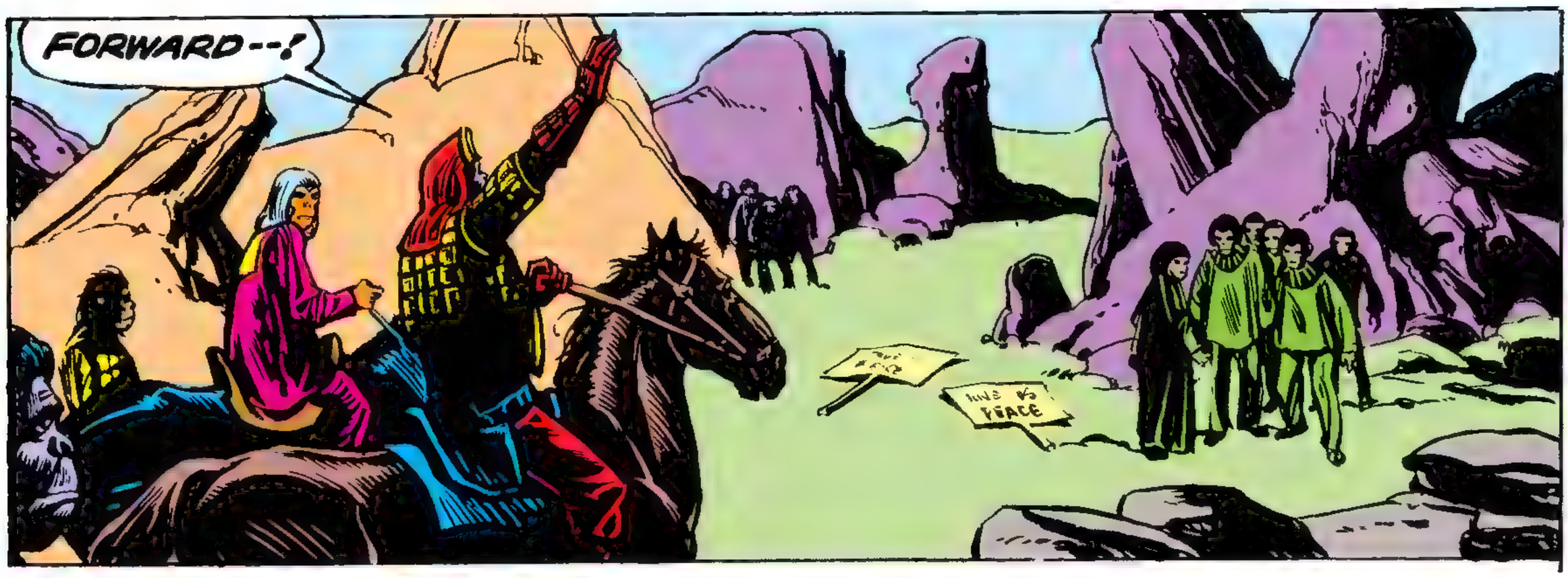
WAIT. PLEASE...

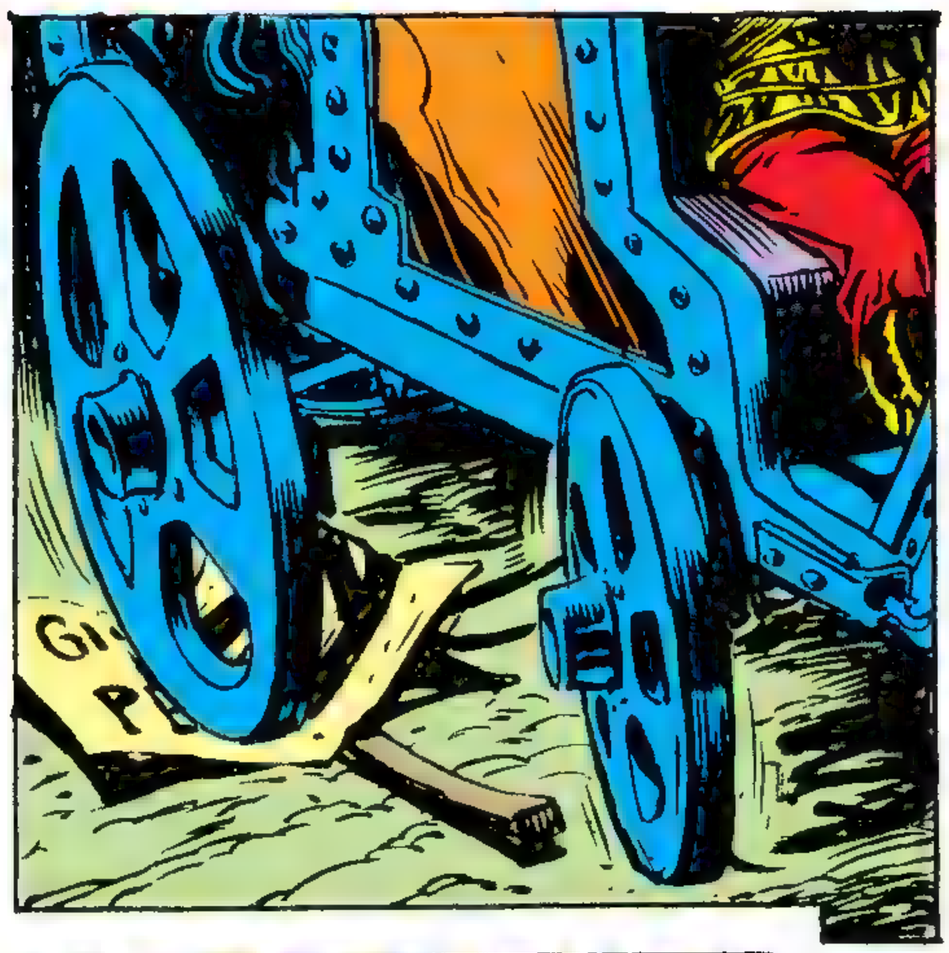
WE DON'T WANT MARTYRS, DO WE...?



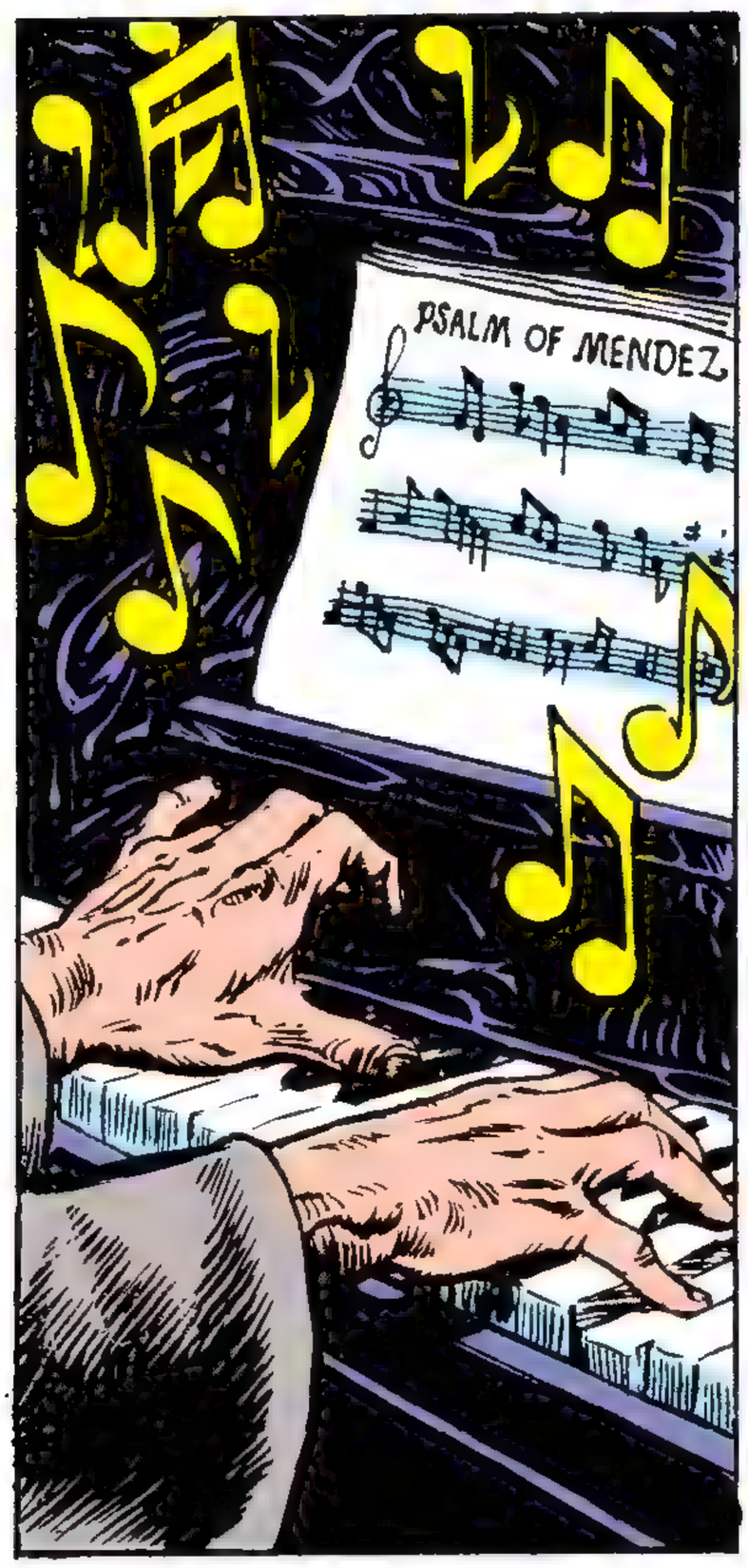

REMOVE THEM QUIETLY, OFFICER.
YES, SIR.

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD THANK YOU FOR THAT, GENERAL...
PEACE

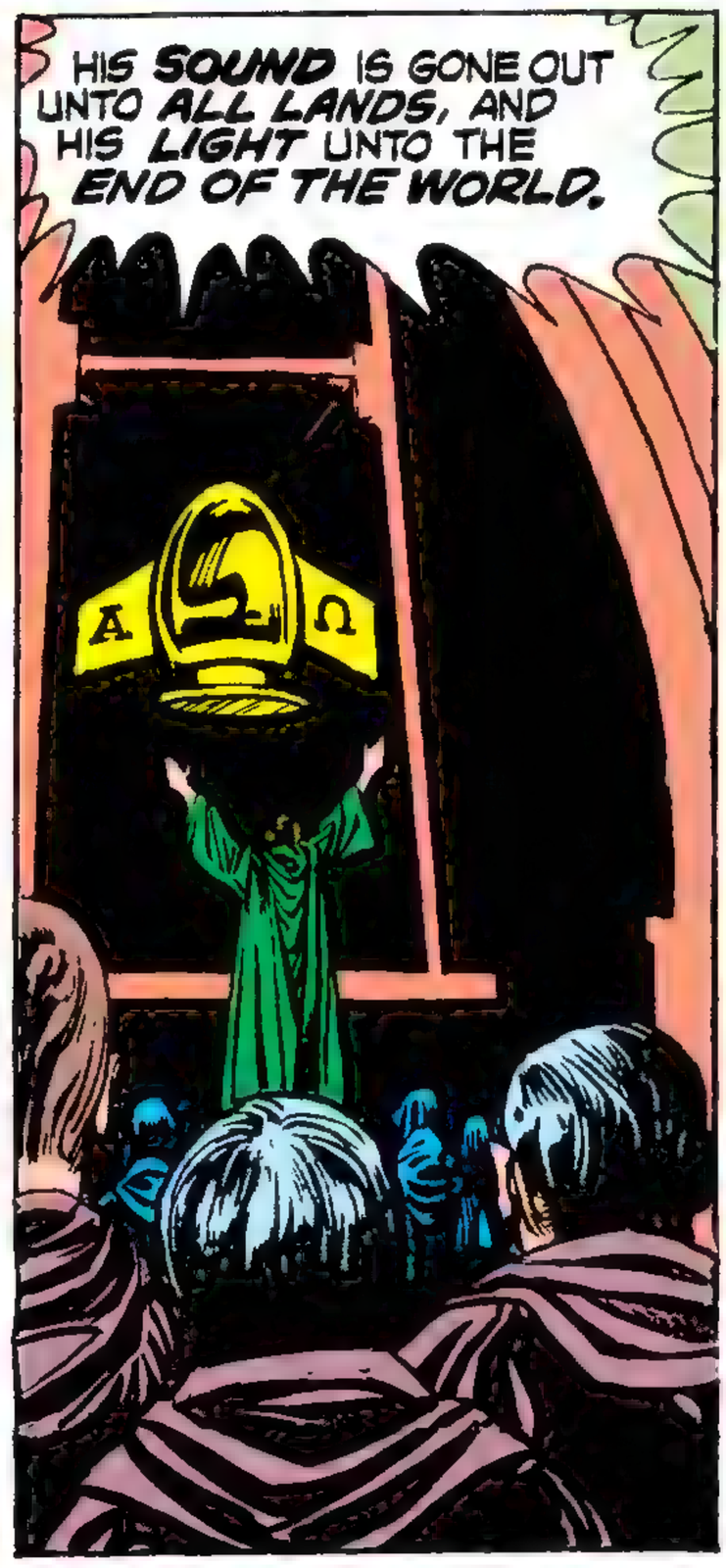

FORWARD--!
PEACE



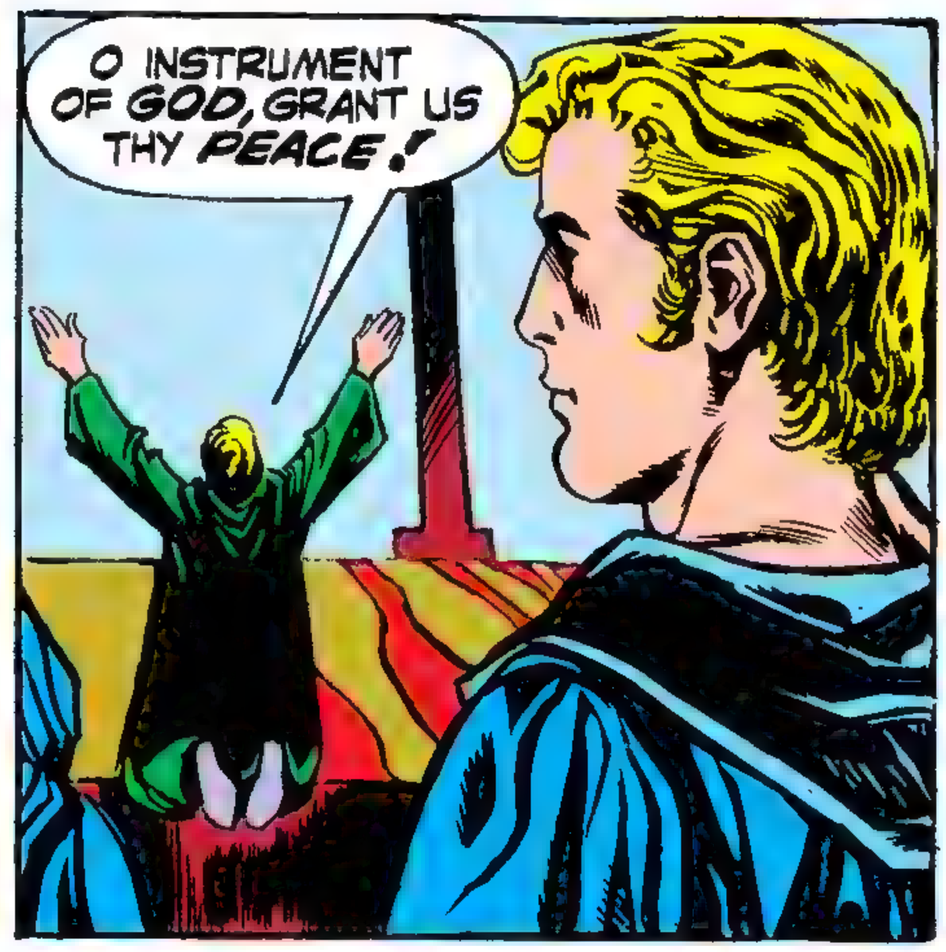
... BUT I DON'T THINK I WILL.

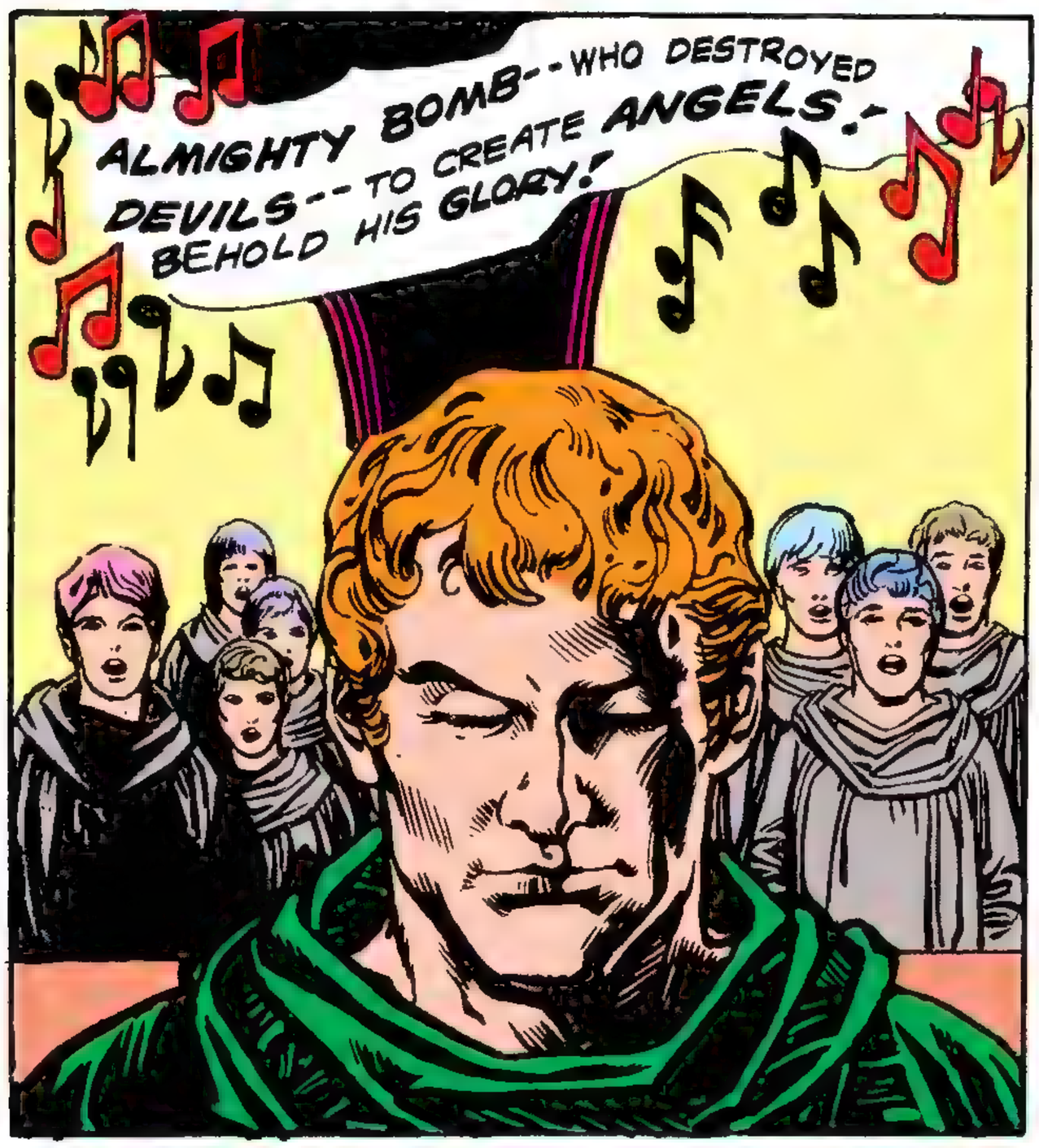

PSALM OF MENDEZ

THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF THE BOMB, AND THE FIRMAMENT SHEWETH HIS HANDIWORK.


HIS SOUND IS GONE OUT UNTO ALL LANDS, AND HIS LIGHT UNTO THE END OF THE WORLD.
A
Ω

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING BOMB, WHO CAME DOWN AMONG US TO MAKE HEAVEN UNDER EARTH--LIGHTEN OUR DARKNESS...


O INSTRUMENT OF GOD, GRANT US THY PEACE!


ALMIGHTY BOMB--WHO DESTROYED DEVILS--TO CREATE ANGELS.- BEHOLD HIS GLORY!

BEHOLD THE TRUTH THAT ABIDES IN US, HIS HANDICRAFT!
I REVEAL THAT TRUTH UNTO THAT MAKER--!

I REVEAL MY INMOST SELF UNTO MY GOD!!

REVEAL THAT TRUTH UNTO THAT MAKER--!?

I REVEAL MY INMOST SELF--

--UNTO MY GOD!!

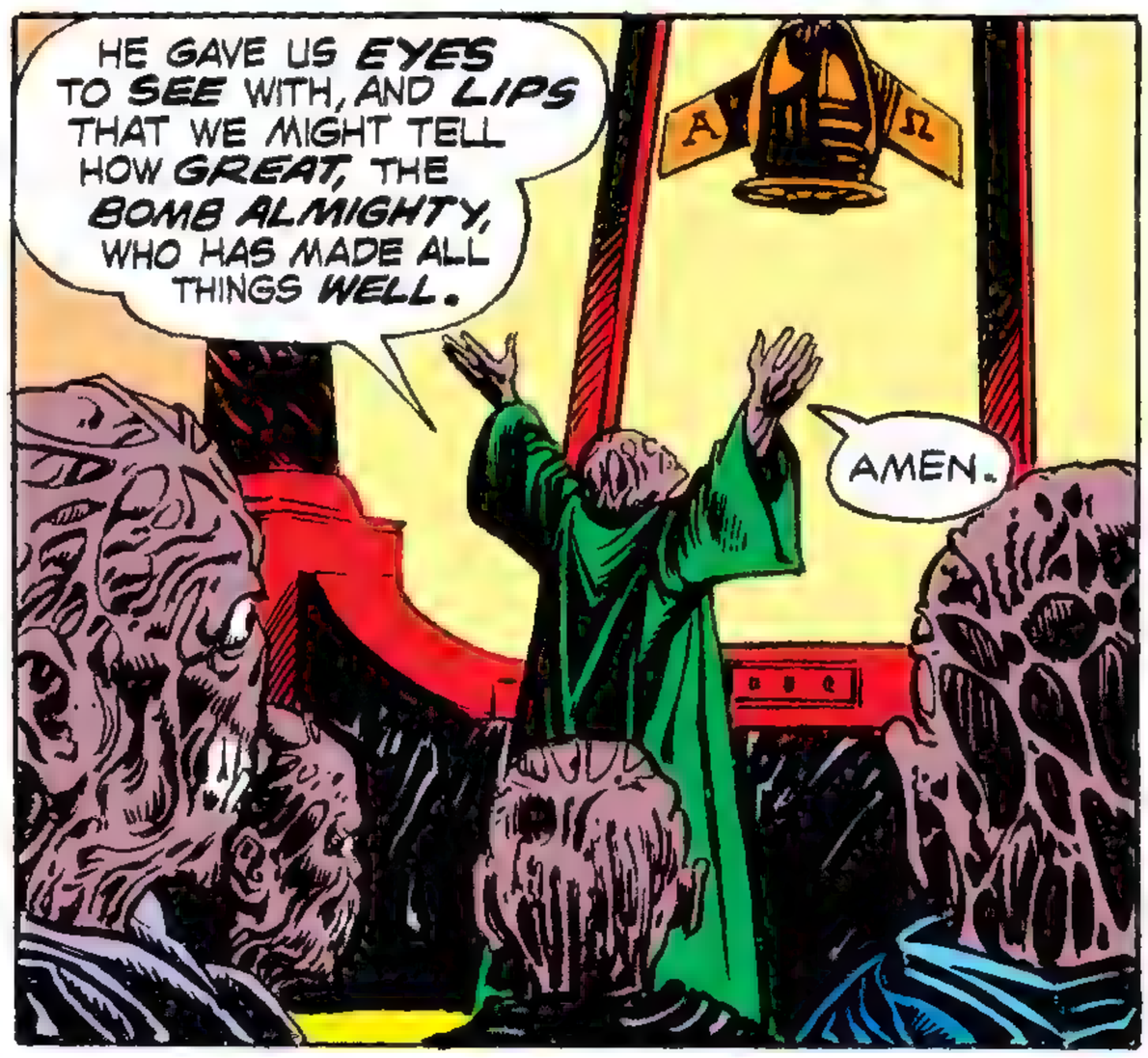
AND NOW, CHILDREN OF THE BOMB...

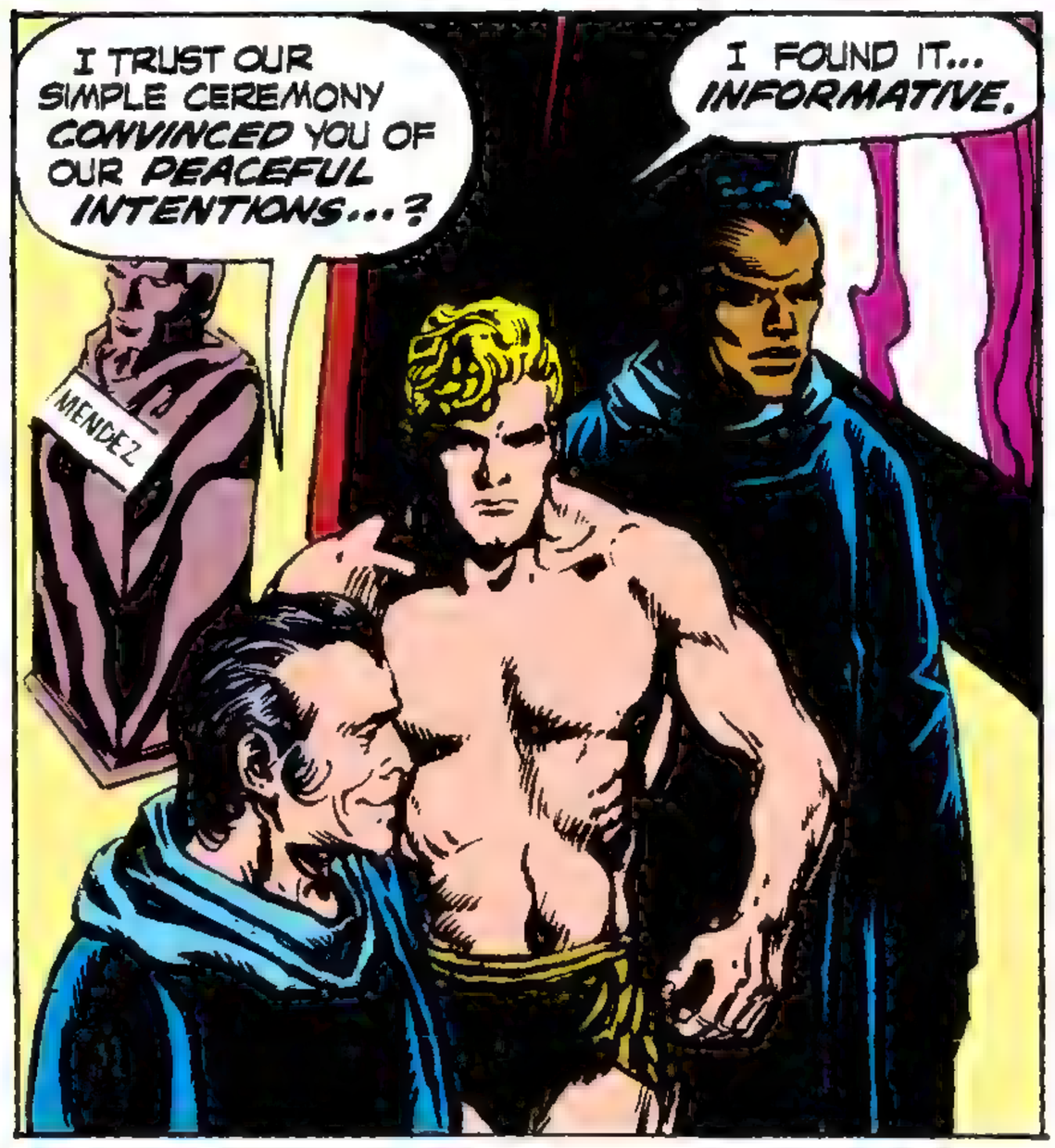
...LET US PRAY.

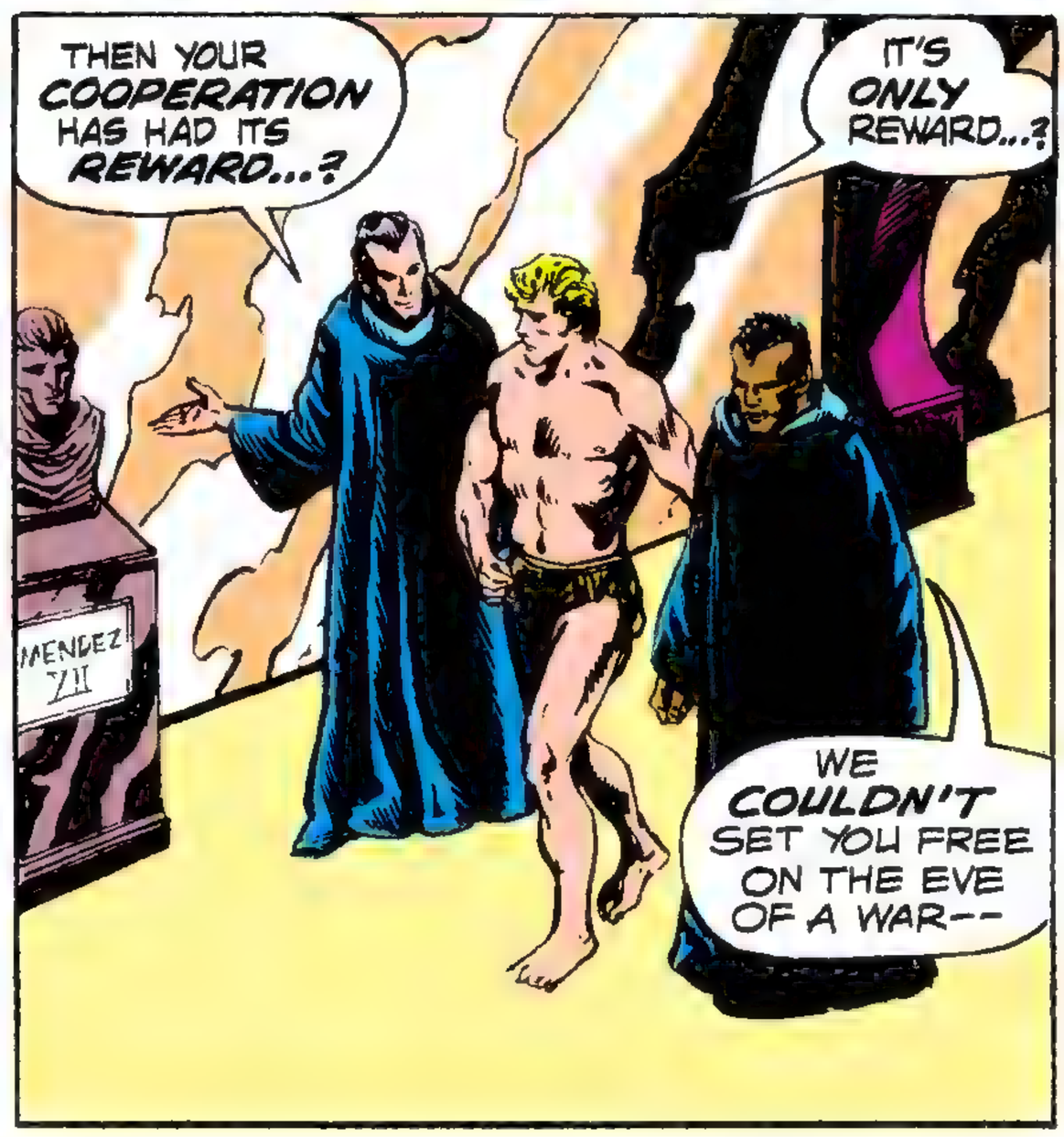
ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL, ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL...

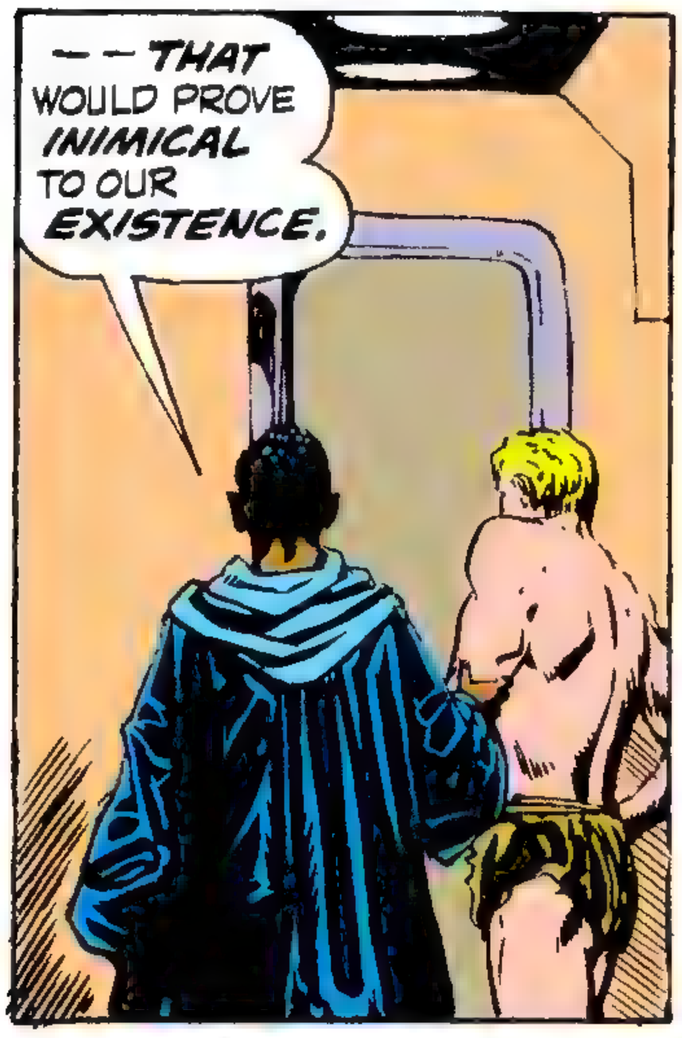
ALL THINGS WISE AND WONDERFUL...

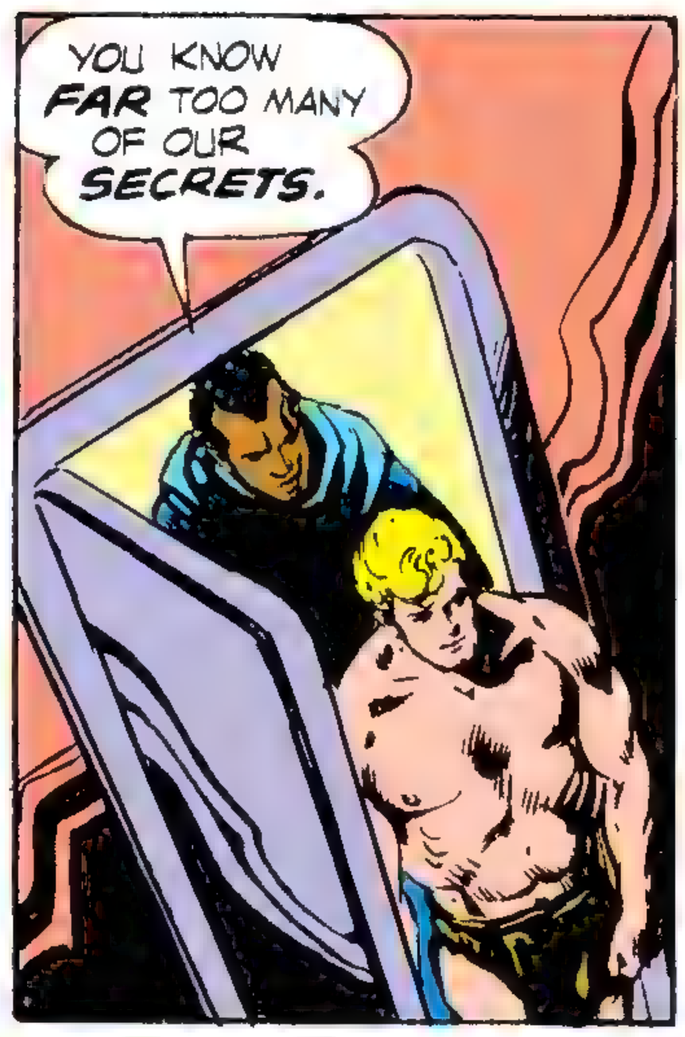
...THE GOOD BOMB MADE US ALL!


HE GAVE US EYES TO SEE WITH, AND LIPS THAT WE MIGHT TELL HOW GREAT, THE BOMB ALMIGHTY, WHO HAS MADE ALL THINGS WELL.
AMEN.

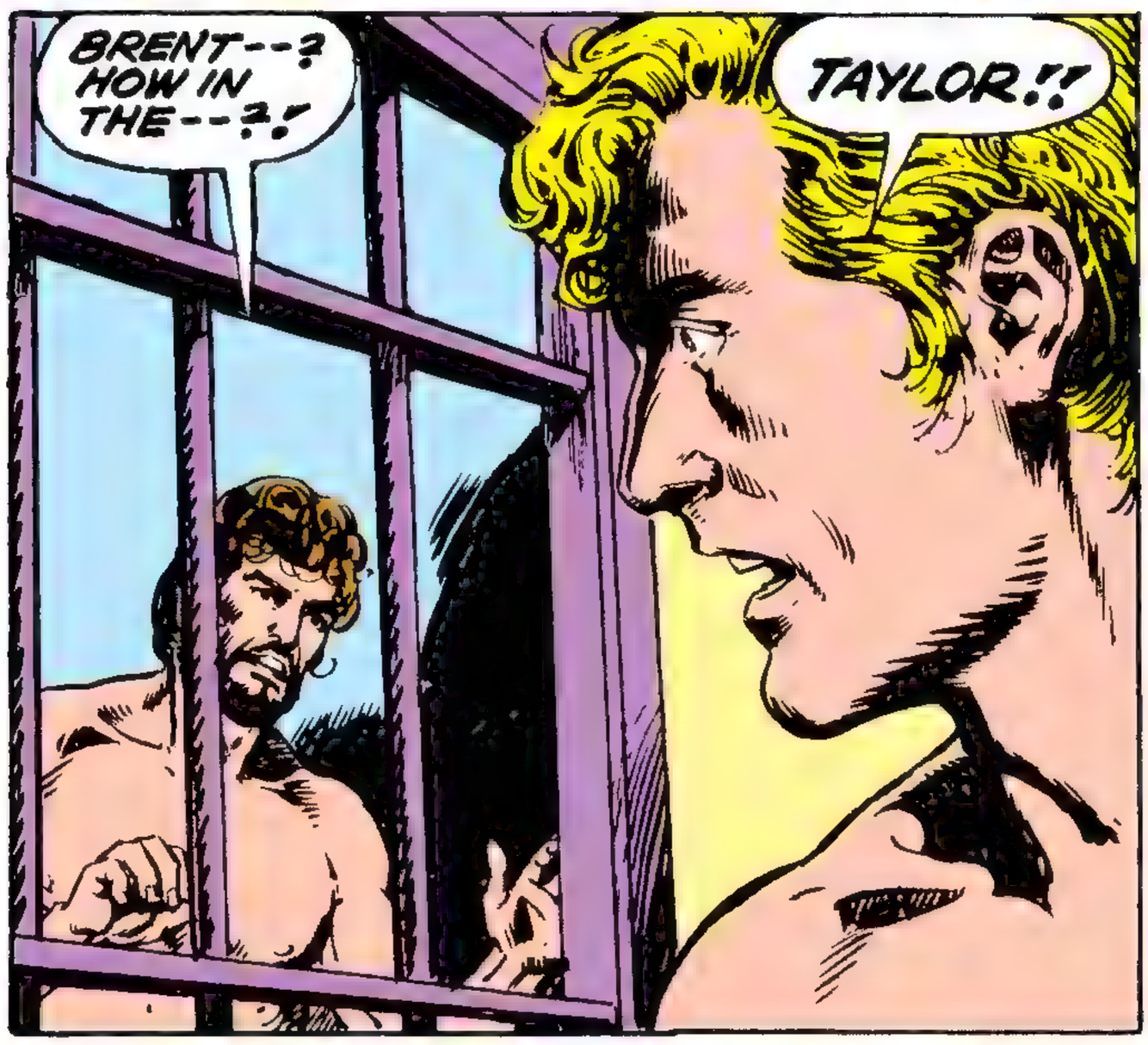

I TRUST OUR SIMPLE CEREMONY CONVINCED YOU OF OUR PEACEFUL INTENTIONS...?
I FOUND IT... INFORMATIVE.
MENDEZ


THEN YOUR COOPERATION HAS HAD ITS REWARD...?
IT'S ONLY REWARD...?
MENDEZ
WE COULDN'T SET YOU FREE ON THE EVE OF A WAR--

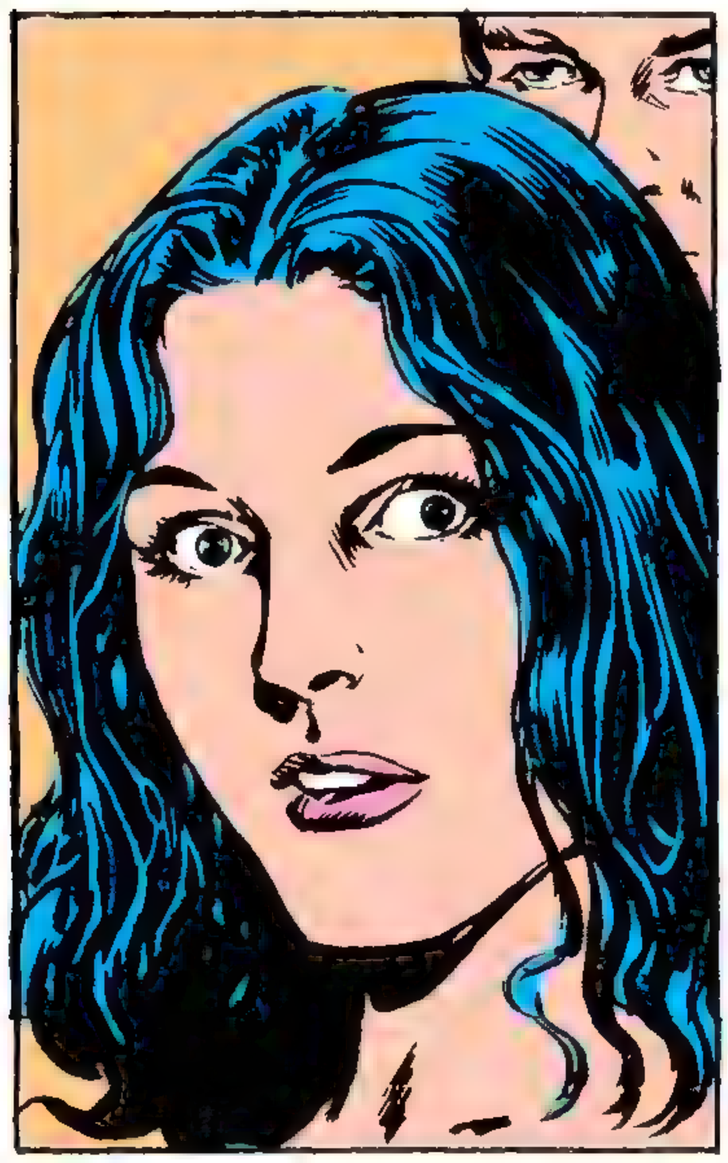

--THAT WOULD PROVE INIMICAL TO OUR EXISTENCE.

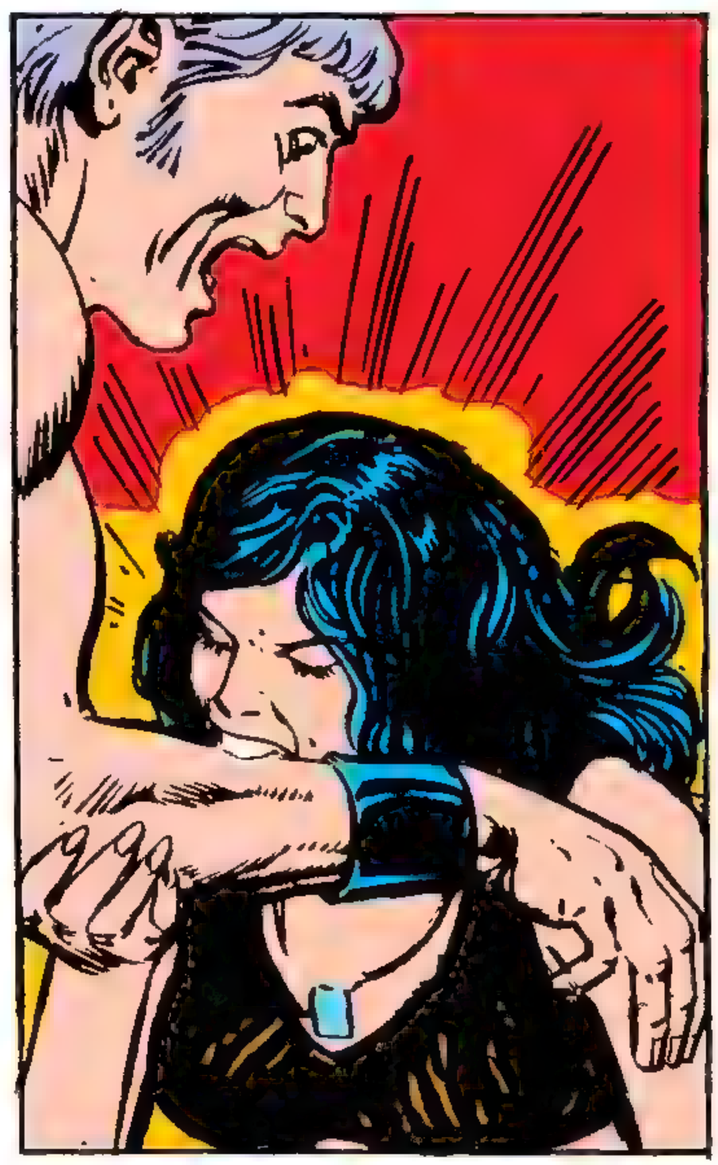

YOU KNOW FAR TOO MANY OF OUR SECRETS.

LIKE YOUR FRIEND!

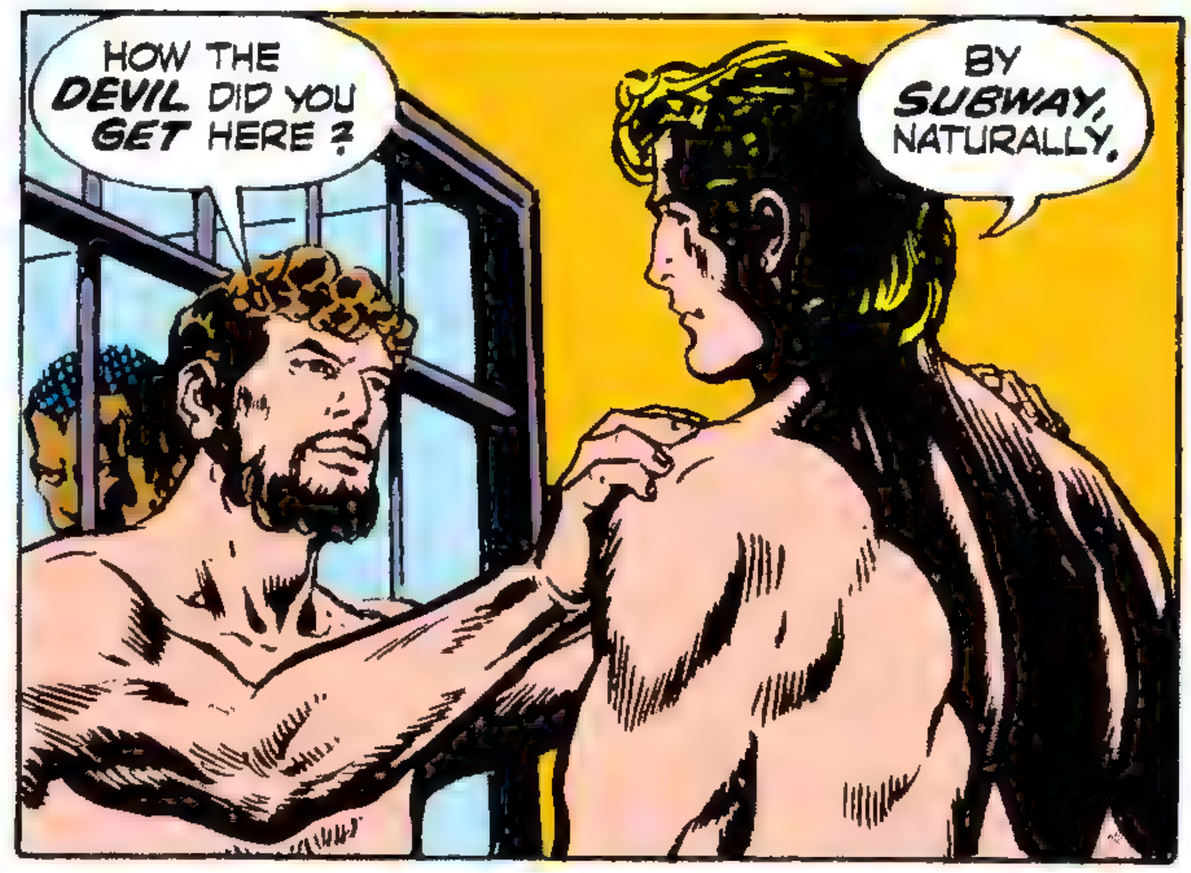

BRENT--? HOW IN THE--?!
TAYLOR!!

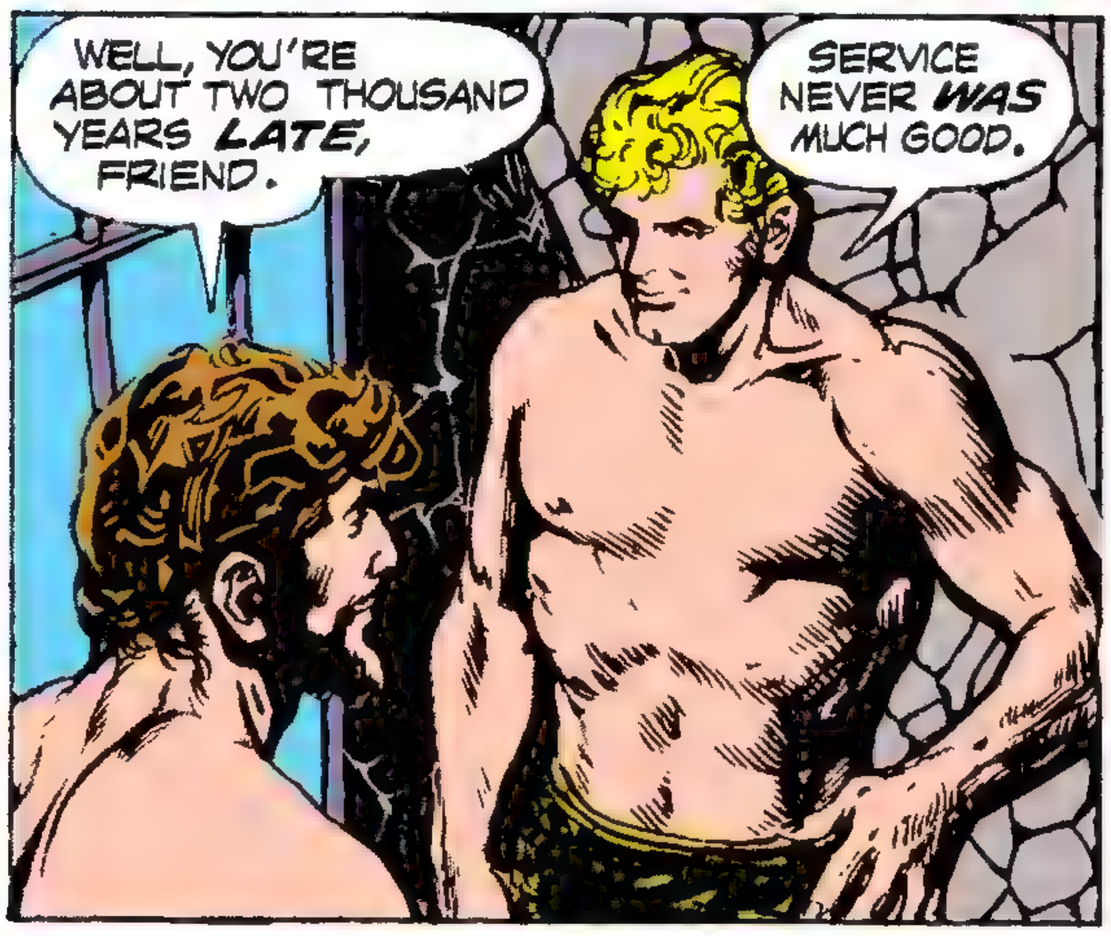
IT'S REALLY YOU, TAYLOR--!

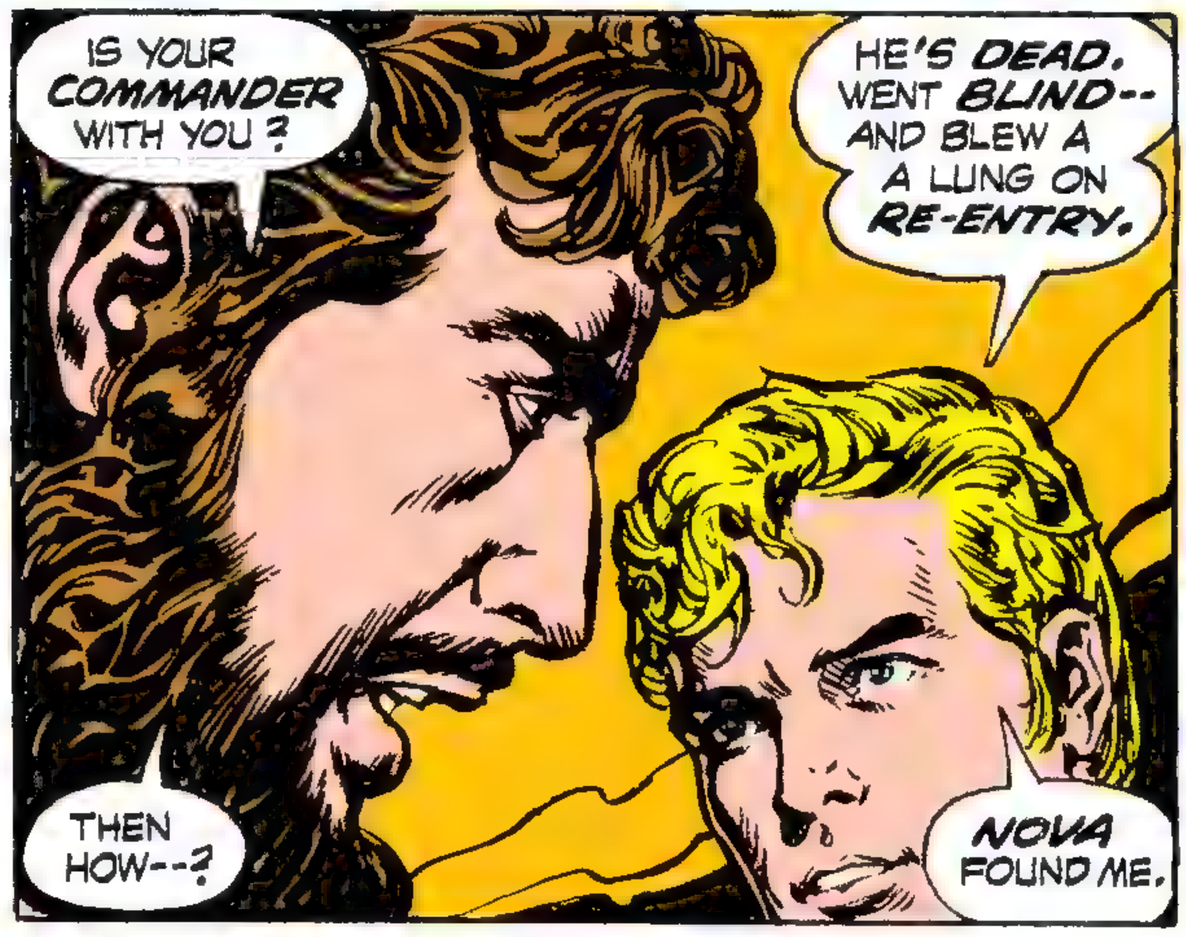


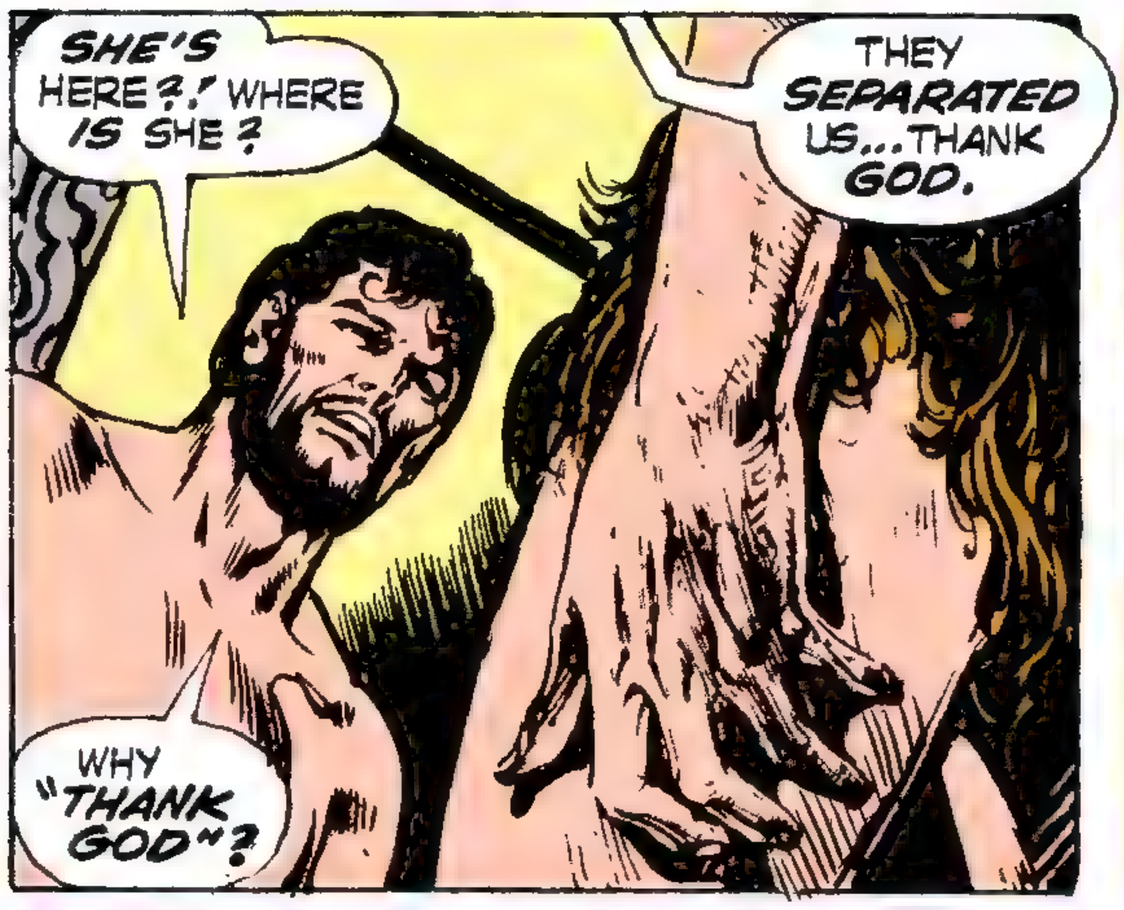


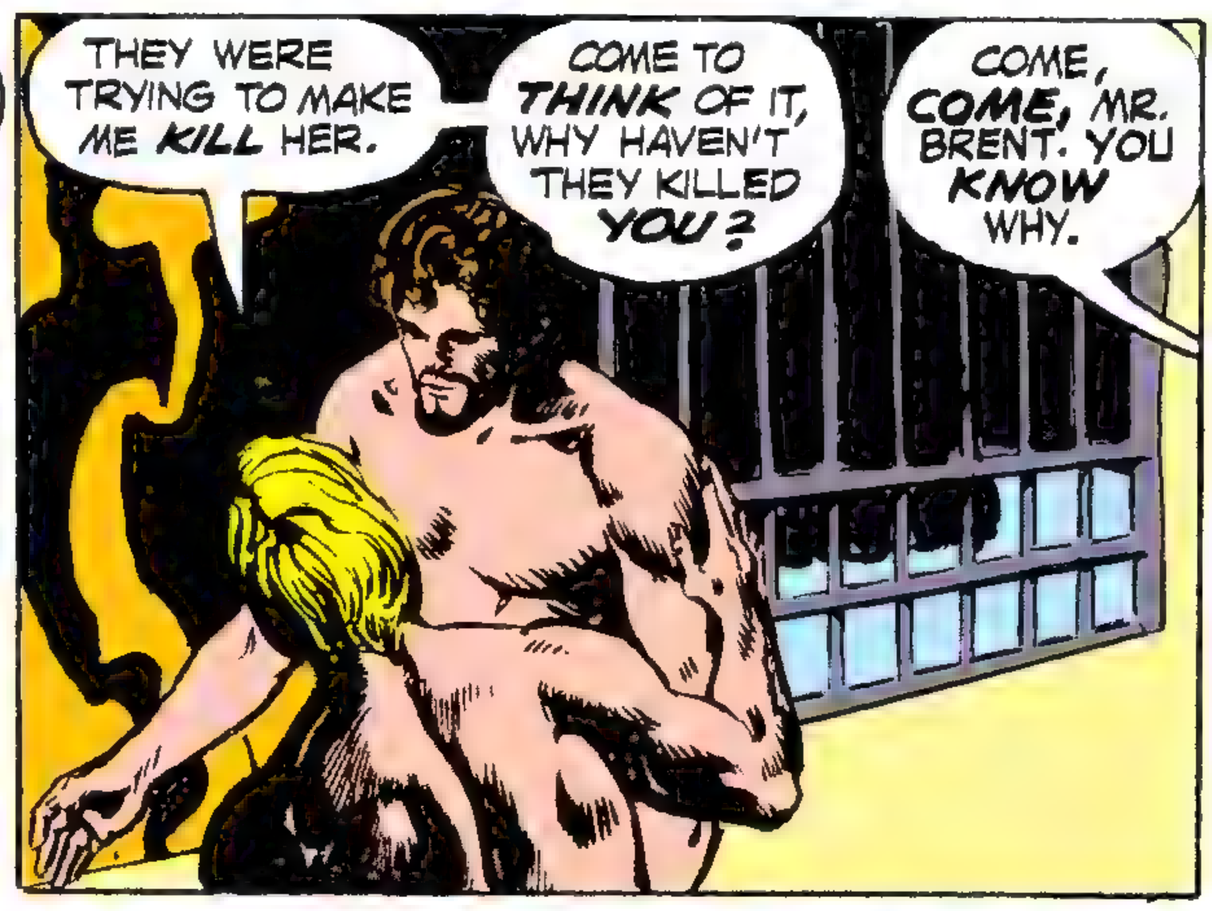
YOW--!!


HOW THE DEVIL DID YOU GET HERE ?
BY SUBWAY, NATURALLY.


WELL, YOU'RE ABOUT TWO THOUSAND YEARS LATE, FRIEND.
SERVICE NEVER WAS MUCH GOOD.

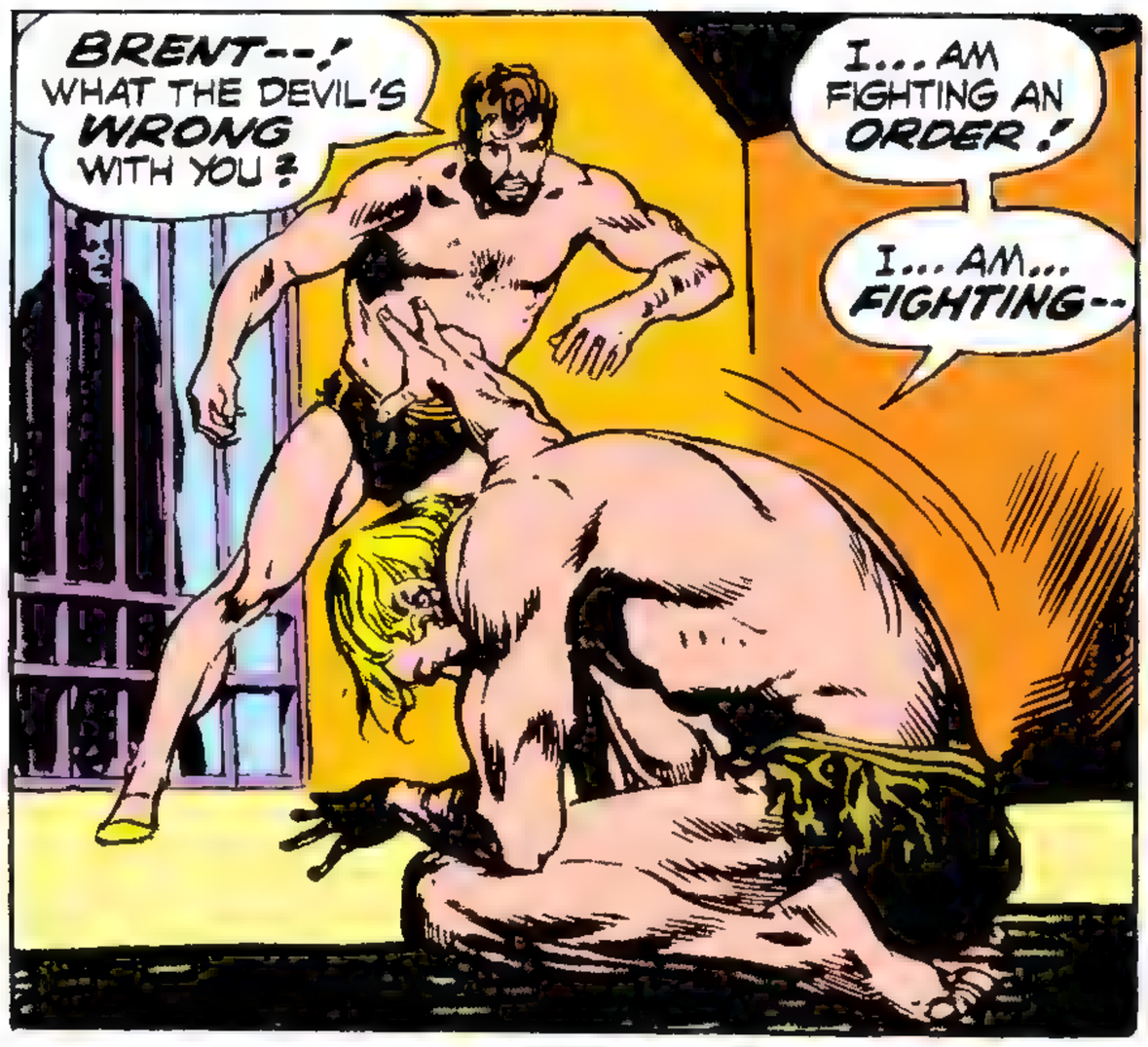

IS YOUR COMMANDER WITH YOU ?
HE'S DEAD. WENT BLIND-- AND BLEW A A LUNG ON RE-ENTRY.
THEN HOW--?
NOVA FOUND ME.

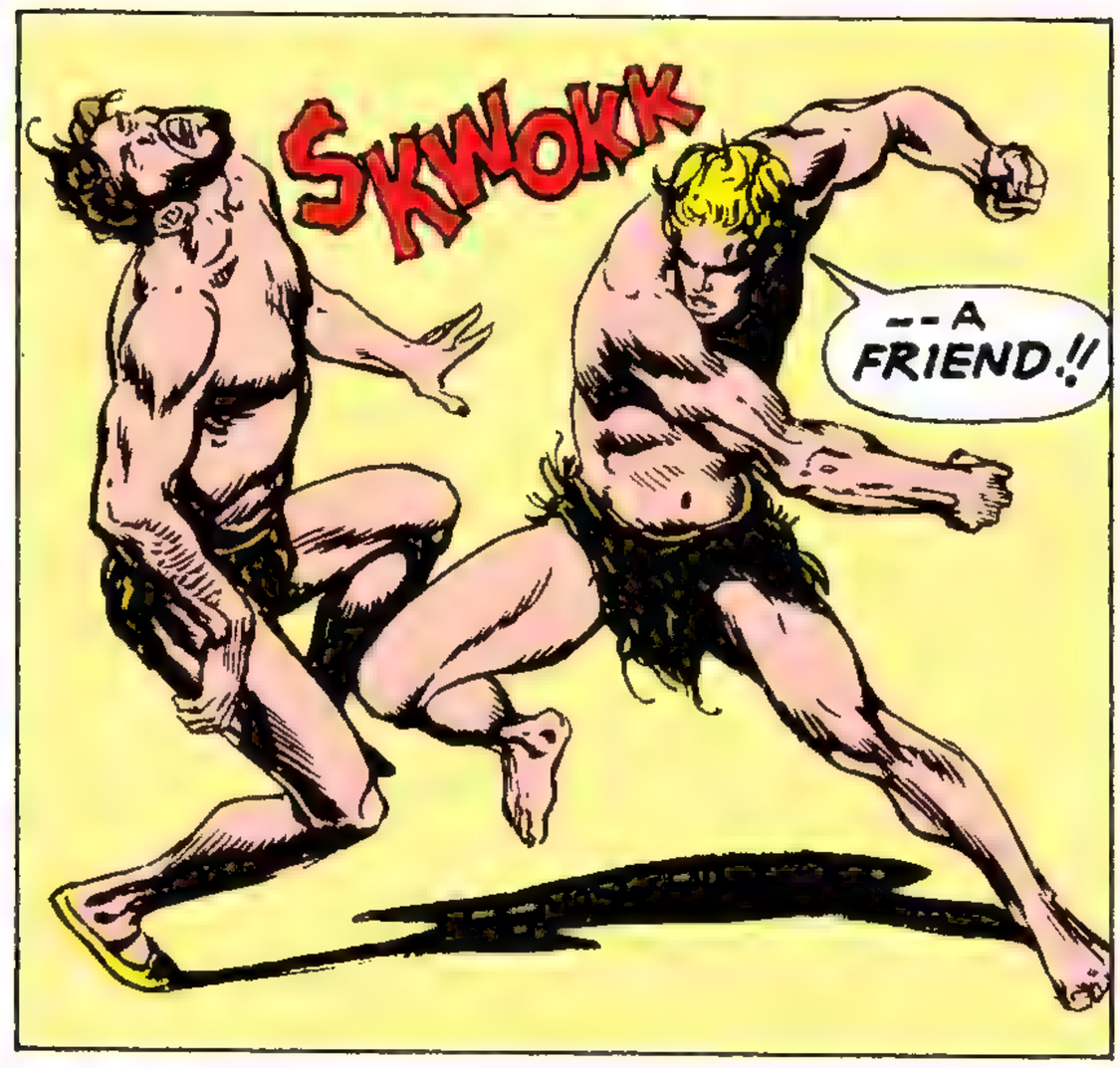

SHE'S HERE?! WHERE IS SHE ?
THEY SEPARATED US...THANK GOD.
WHY "THANK GOD"?

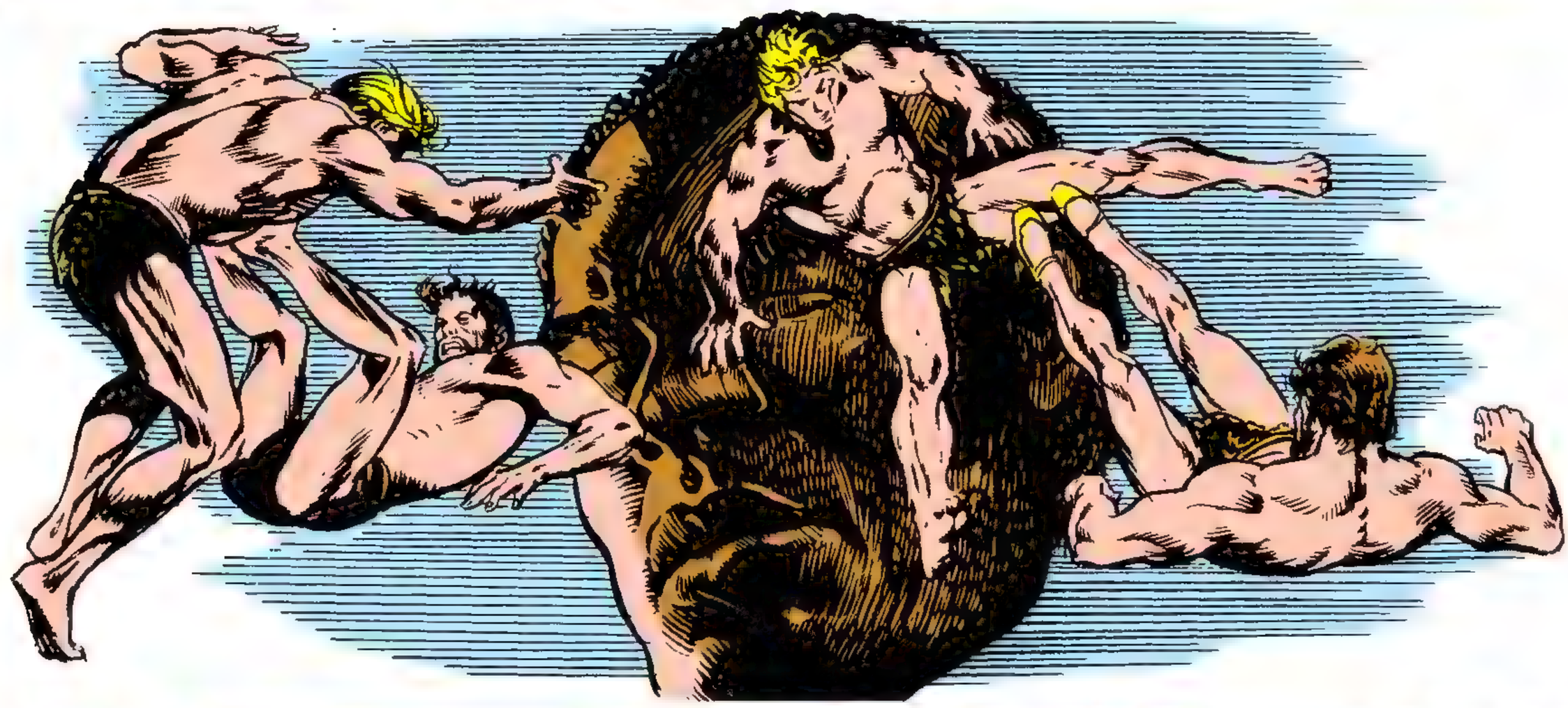

THEY WERE TRYING TO MAKE ME KILL HER.
COME TO THINK OF IT, WHY HAVEN'T THEY KILLED YOU ?
COME, COME, MR. BRENT. YOU KNOW WHY.

WE GET OUR ENEMIES TO KILL EACH OTHER.

AHGGK-K--!!

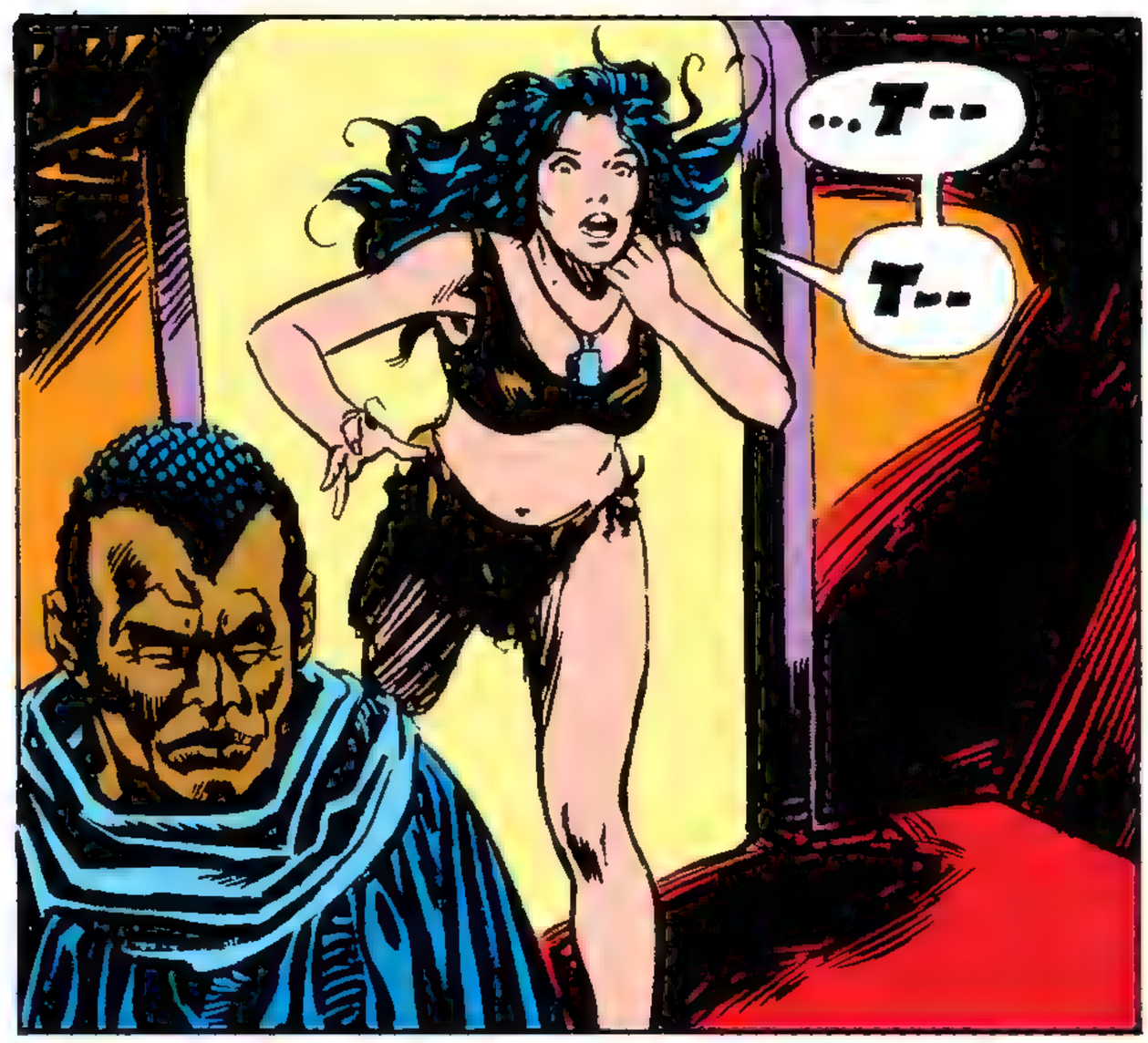

BRENT--! WHAT THE DEVIL'S WRONG WITH YOU?
I... AM FIGHTING AN ORDER!
I... AM... FIGHTING--

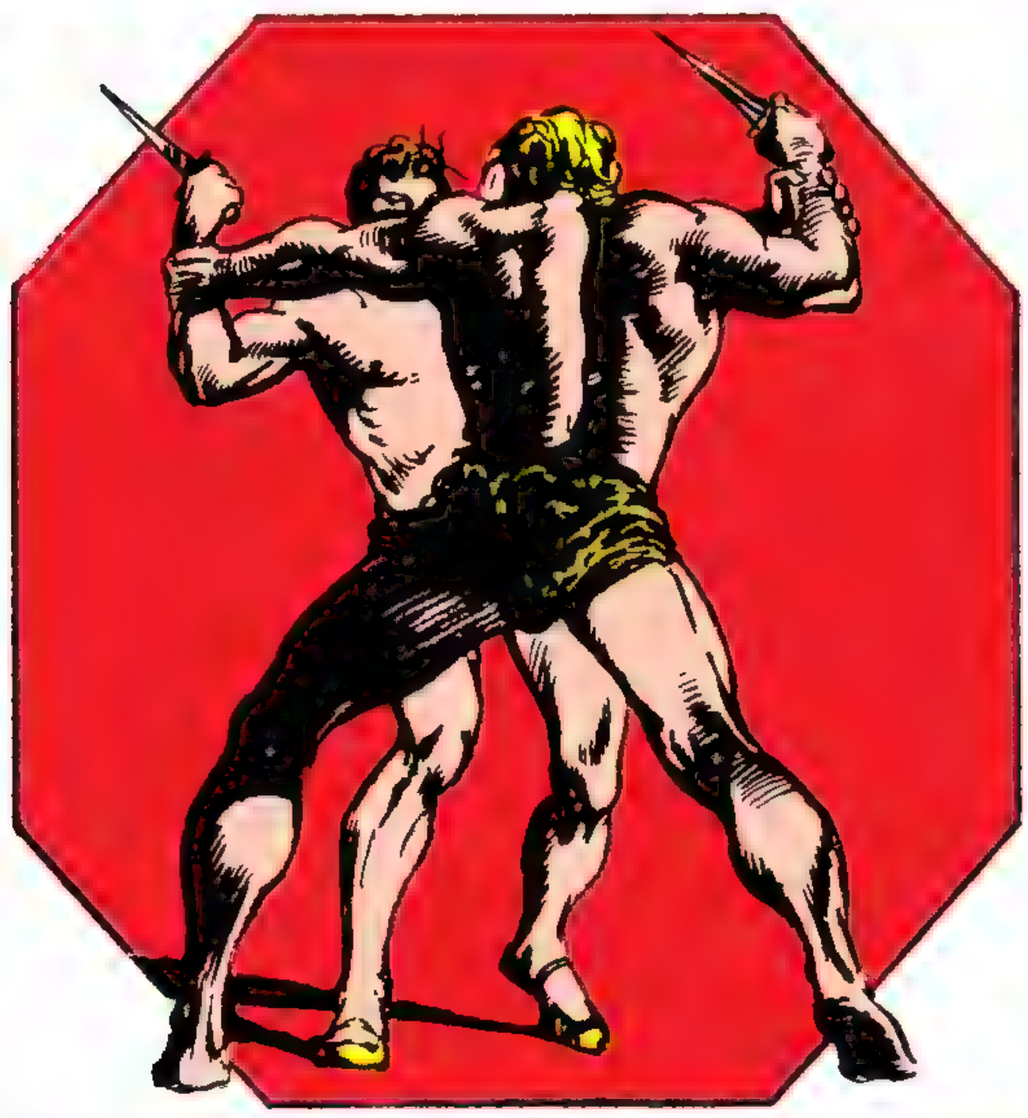

SKWOKK
--A FRIEND!!



TLAK
KLAK

YAAAIIEEE

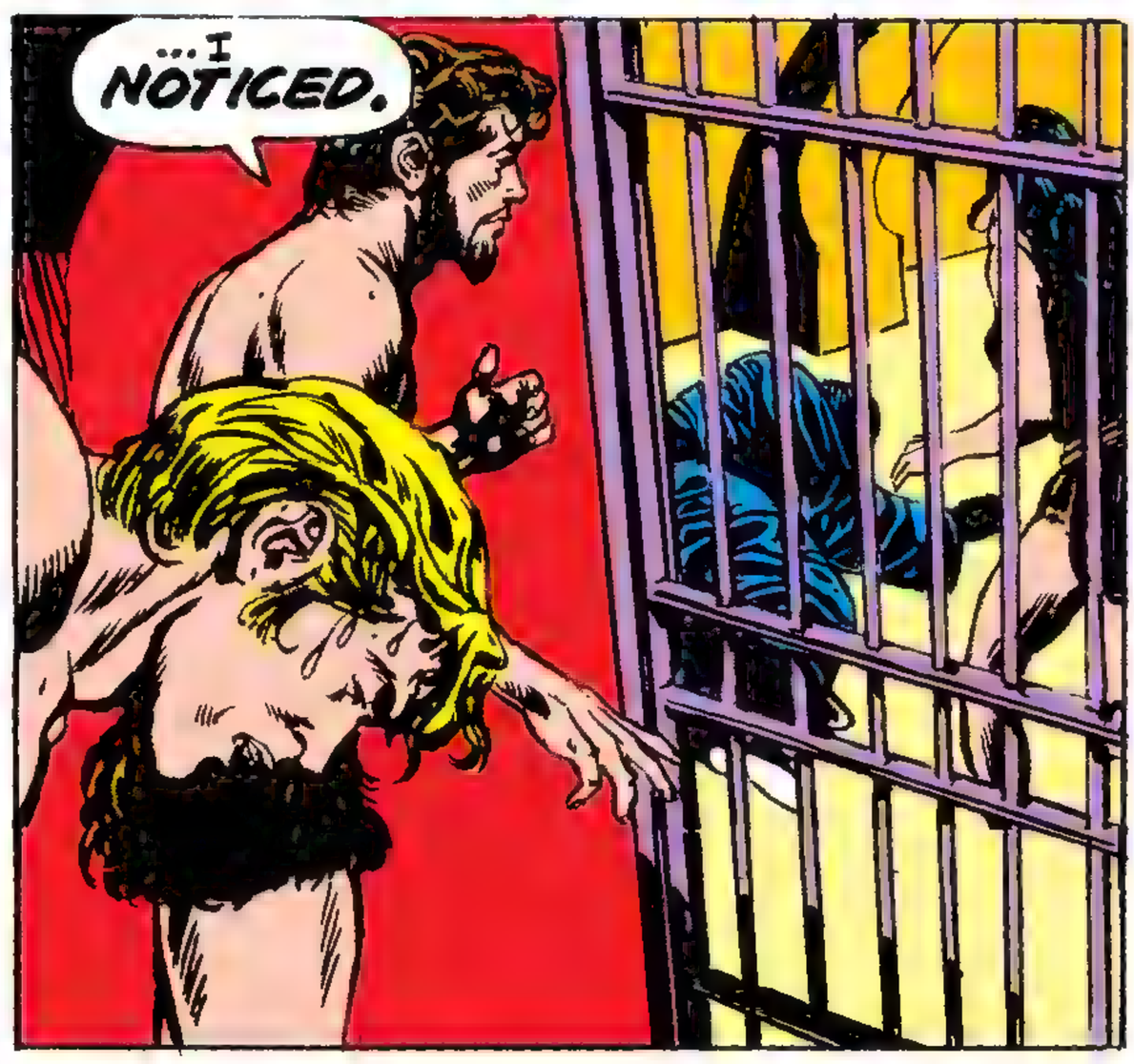

...T--
T--

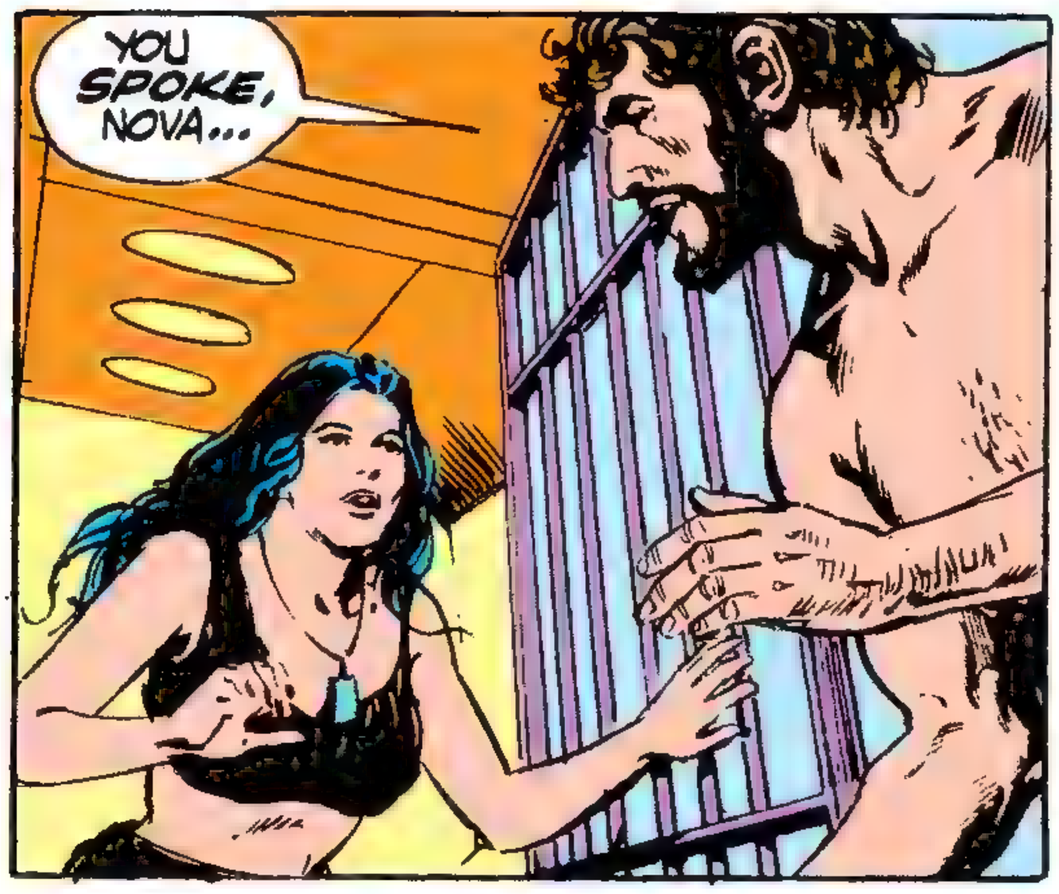


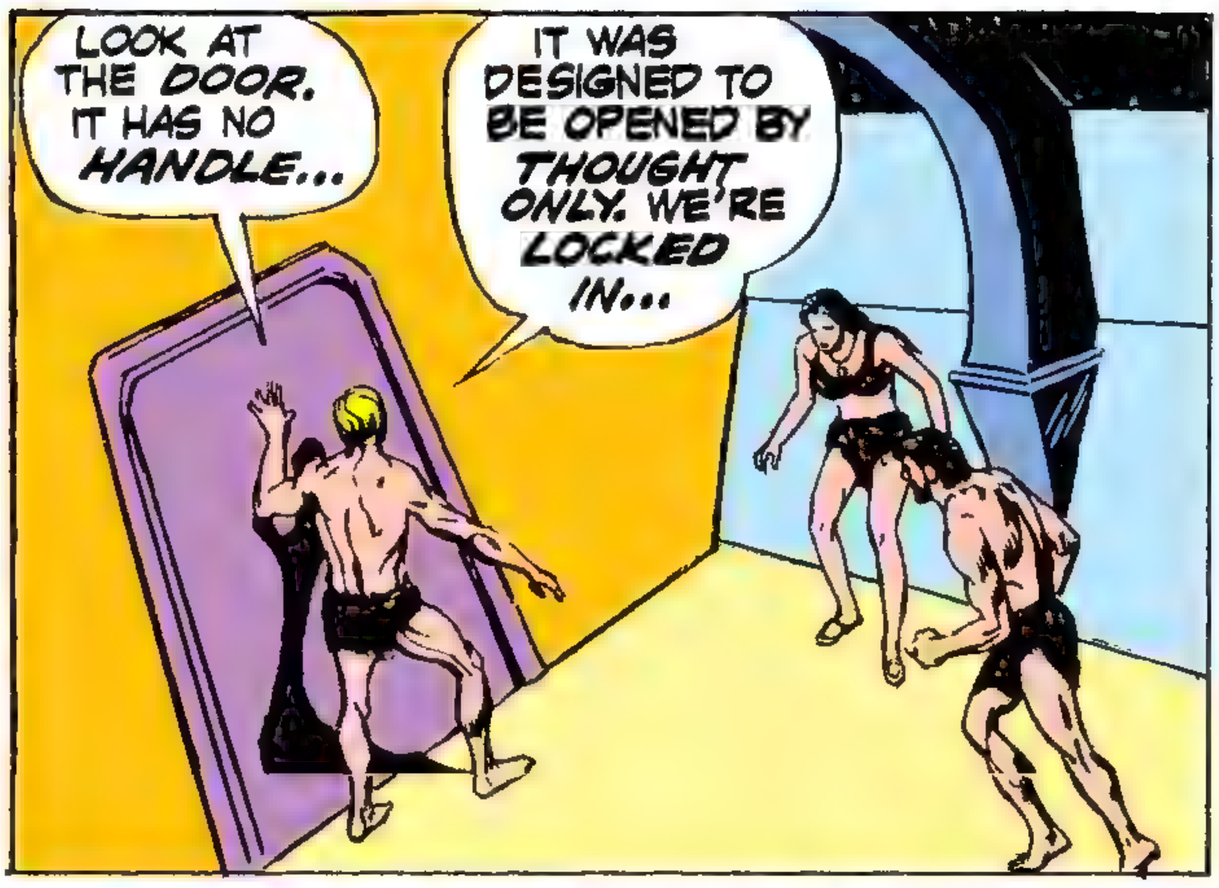
...TAY-
LOR--!

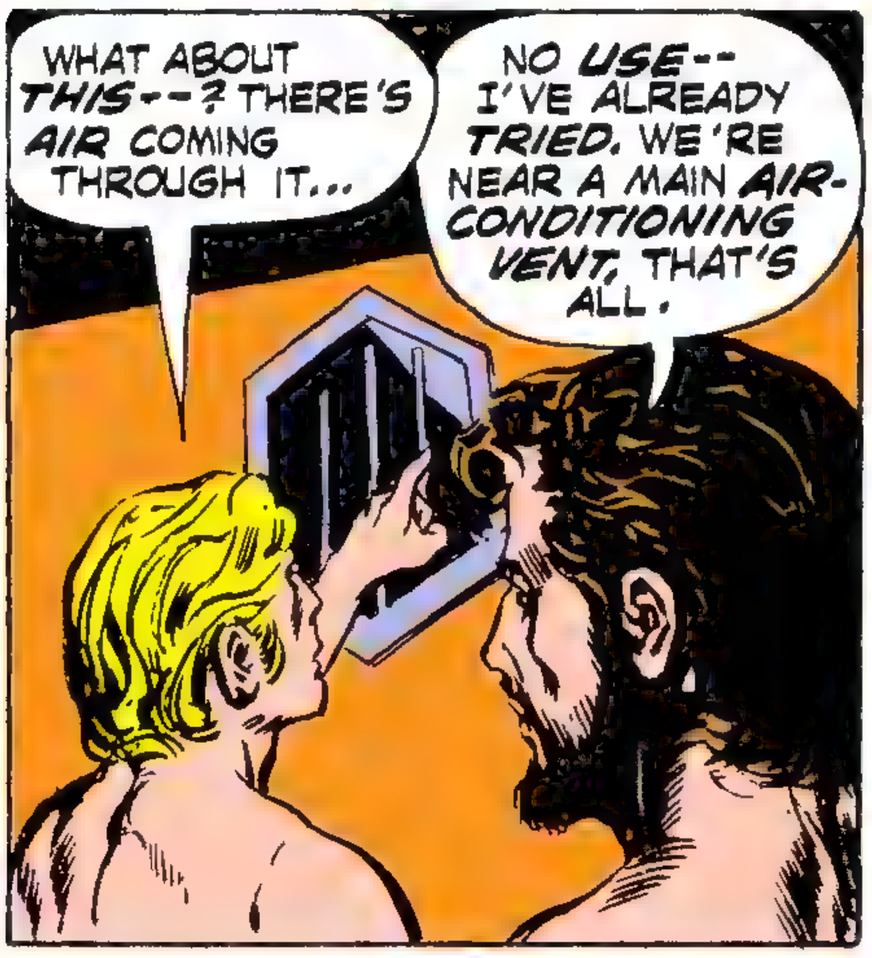
HIS EYES,
TAYLOR...
OPENED...!

CHUK


...I
NOTICED.


YOU SPOKE, NOVA...


LOOK AT THE DOOR. IT HAS NO HANDLE...
IT WAS DESIGNED TO BE OPENED BY THOUGHT ONLY. WE'RE LOCKED IN...


WHAT ABOUT THIS--? THERE'S AIR COMING THROUGH IT...
NO USE-- I'VE ALREADY TRIED. WE'RE NEAR A MAIN AIR-CONDITIONING VENT, THAT'S ALL.

IT'S COLD...
JUST AS WELL. WE MAY BE IN FOR A LONG STAY-- AND I'M ALLERGIC TO THE STINK OF DEATH.

NOW LET'S TALK SOME MORE, AND MAKE IT QUICK.
THEY HAVE AN ATOMIC BOMB-- OPERATIONAL --AND THEY INTEND TO USE IT.

THERE WERE NUMBERS ON THE FINS-- EXCEPT THEY WEREN'T NUMBERS.
JUST TWO GREEK LETTERS-- ALPHA AND OMEGA...

ALPHA AND--
MAY GOD HELP US ALL, BRENT... IT'S THE DOOMSDAY BOMB!

AND IN THE CAMP OF THE APES...

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO! URSUS KNOWS ENOUGH FOR ALL OF US!

SOUND THE ADVANCE.

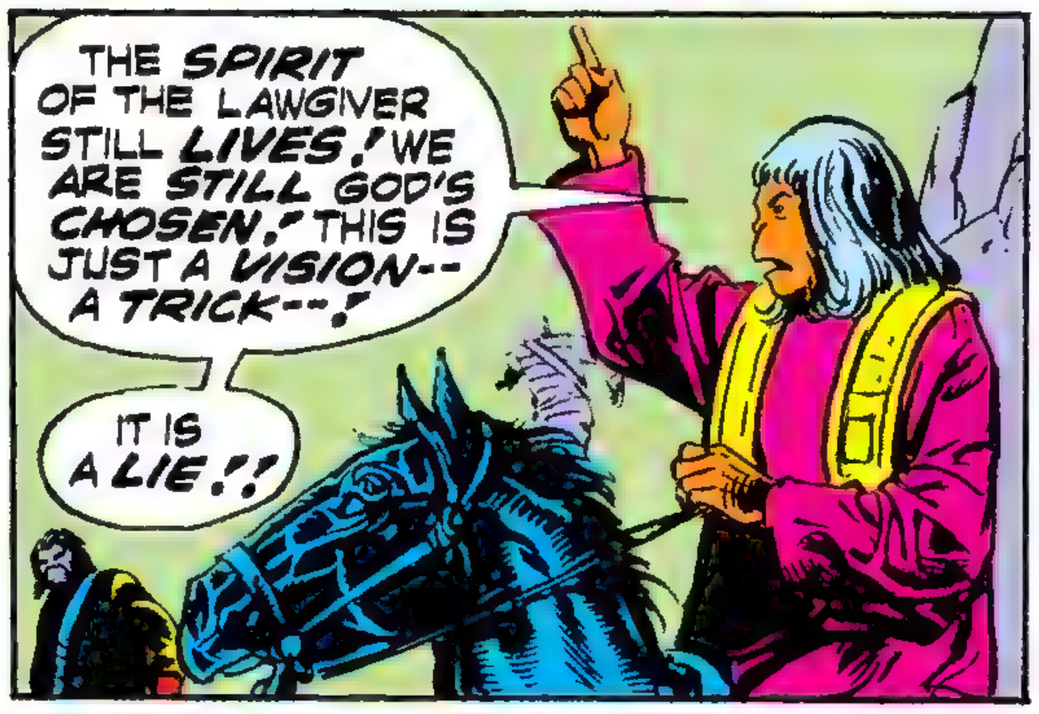
YES, SIR!

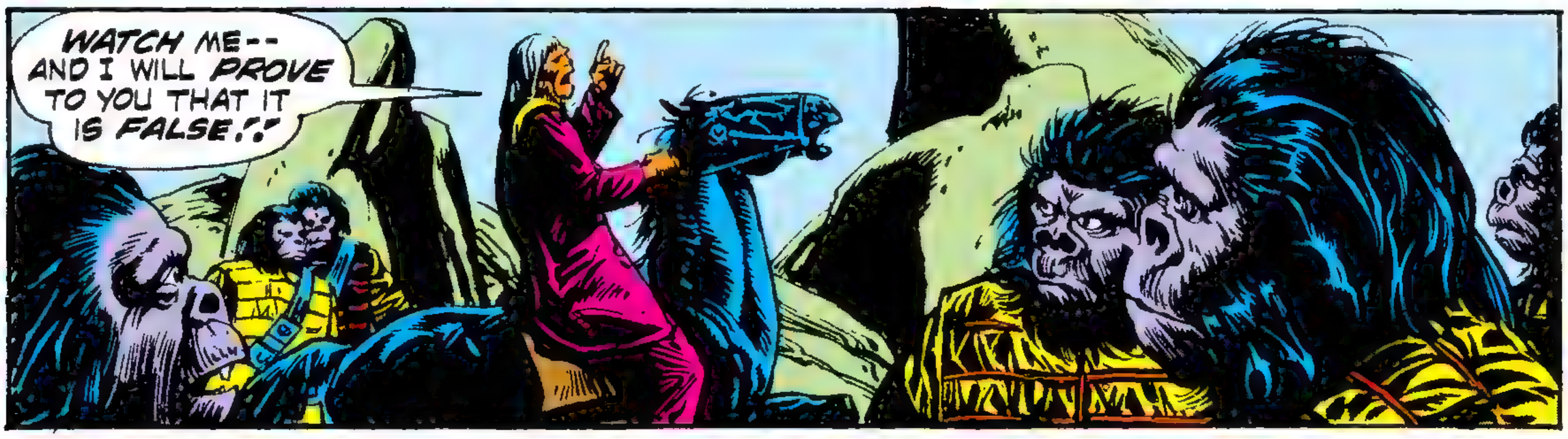
TOOOO RAUUWW

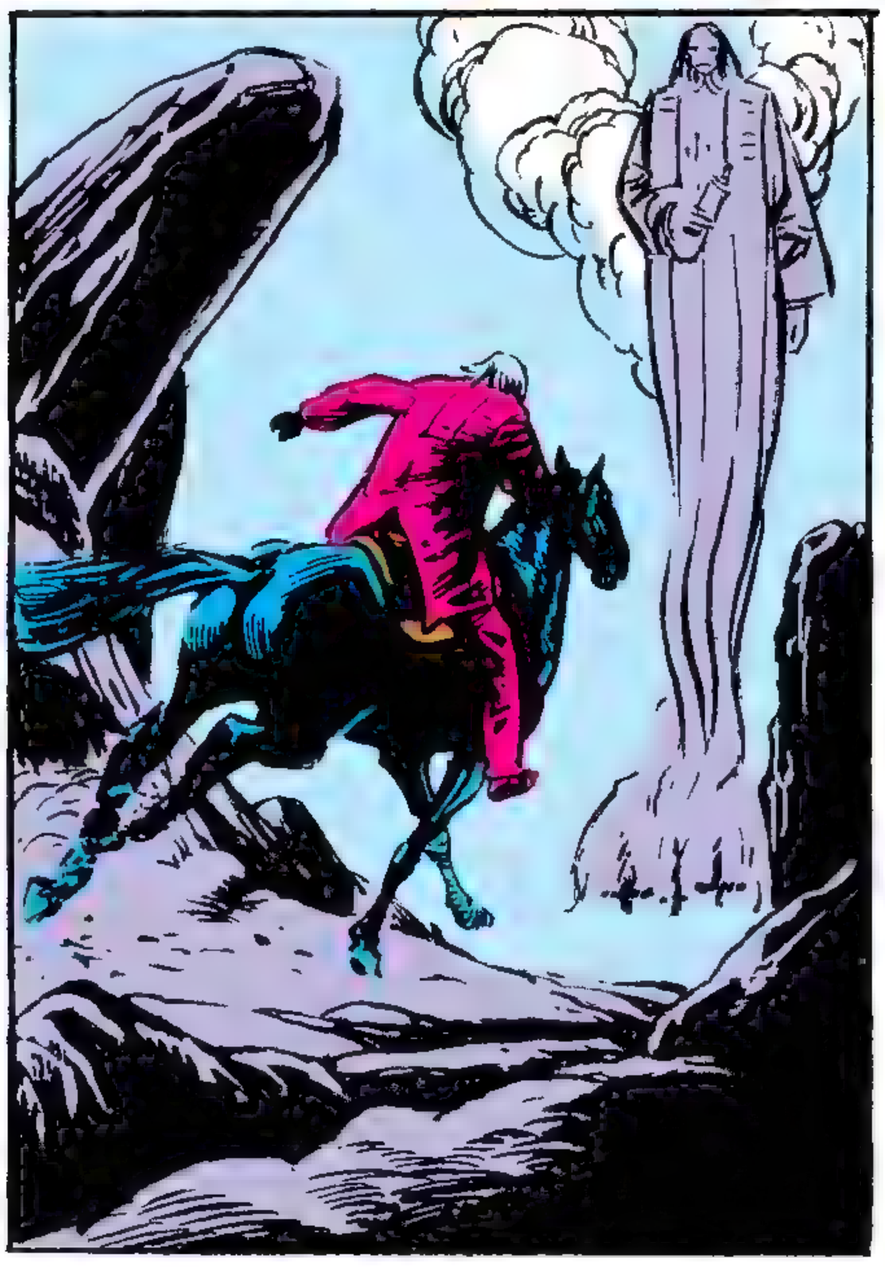
THE LAWGIVER--!!

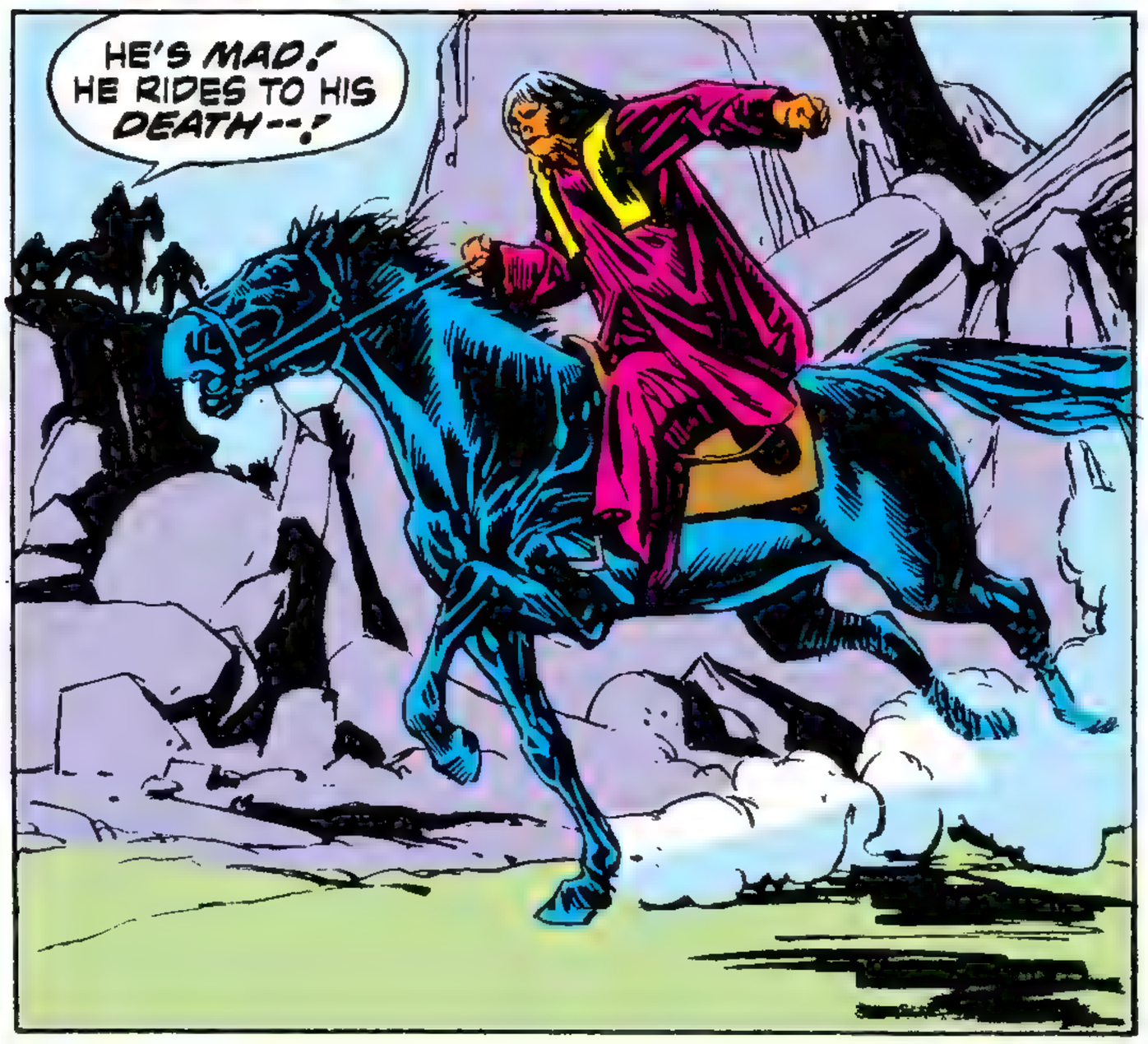
THE LAWGIVER BLEEDS!!

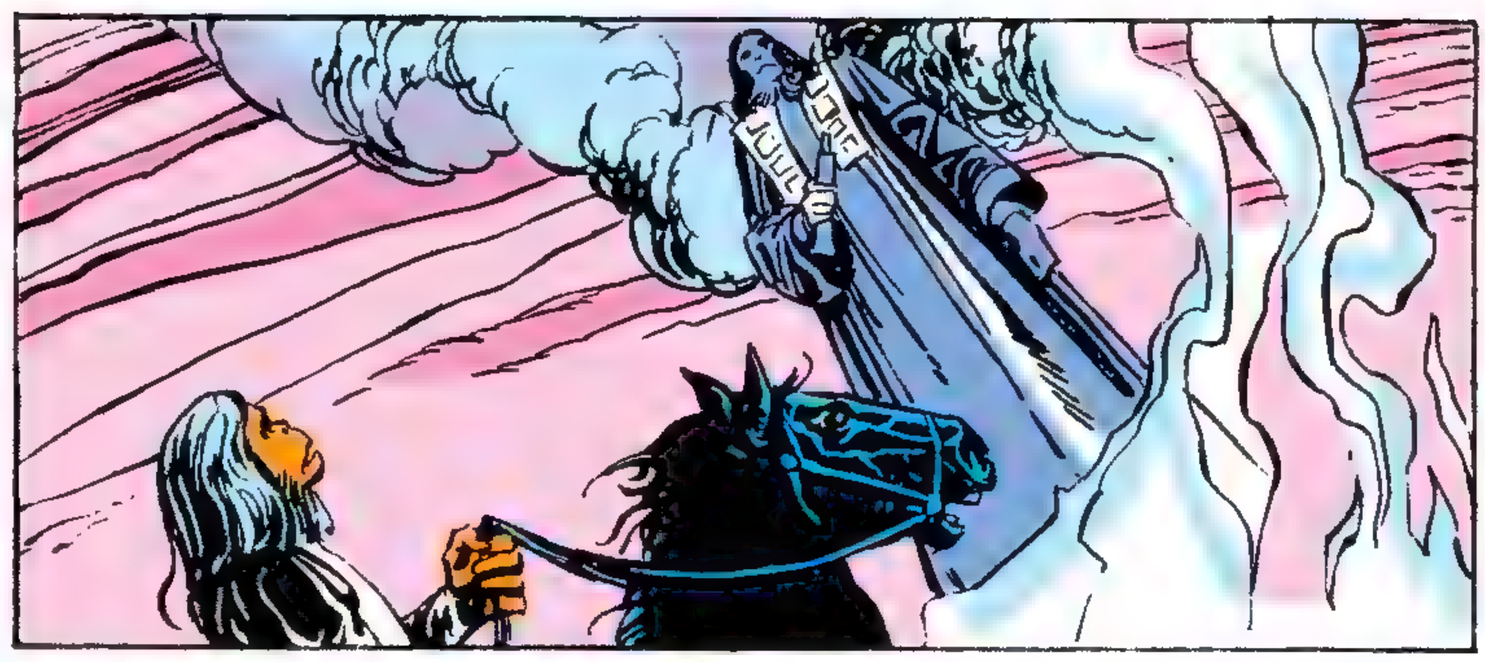
FLEE-- THE LAWGIVER IS DYING!
WE ARE DOOMED--!

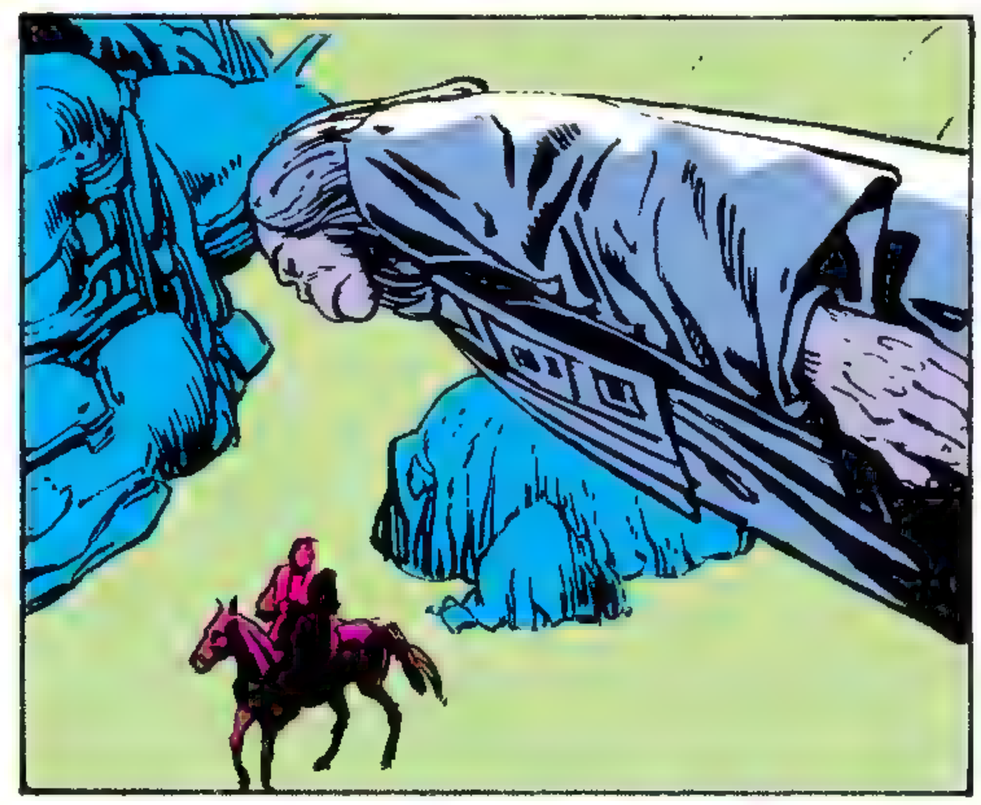

THE SPIRIT OF THE LAWGIVER STILL LIVES! WE ARE STILL GOD'S CHOSEN! THIS IS JUST A VISION-- A TRICK--!
IT IS A LIE!!


WATCH ME-- AND I WILL PROVE TO YOU THAT IT IS FALSE!!



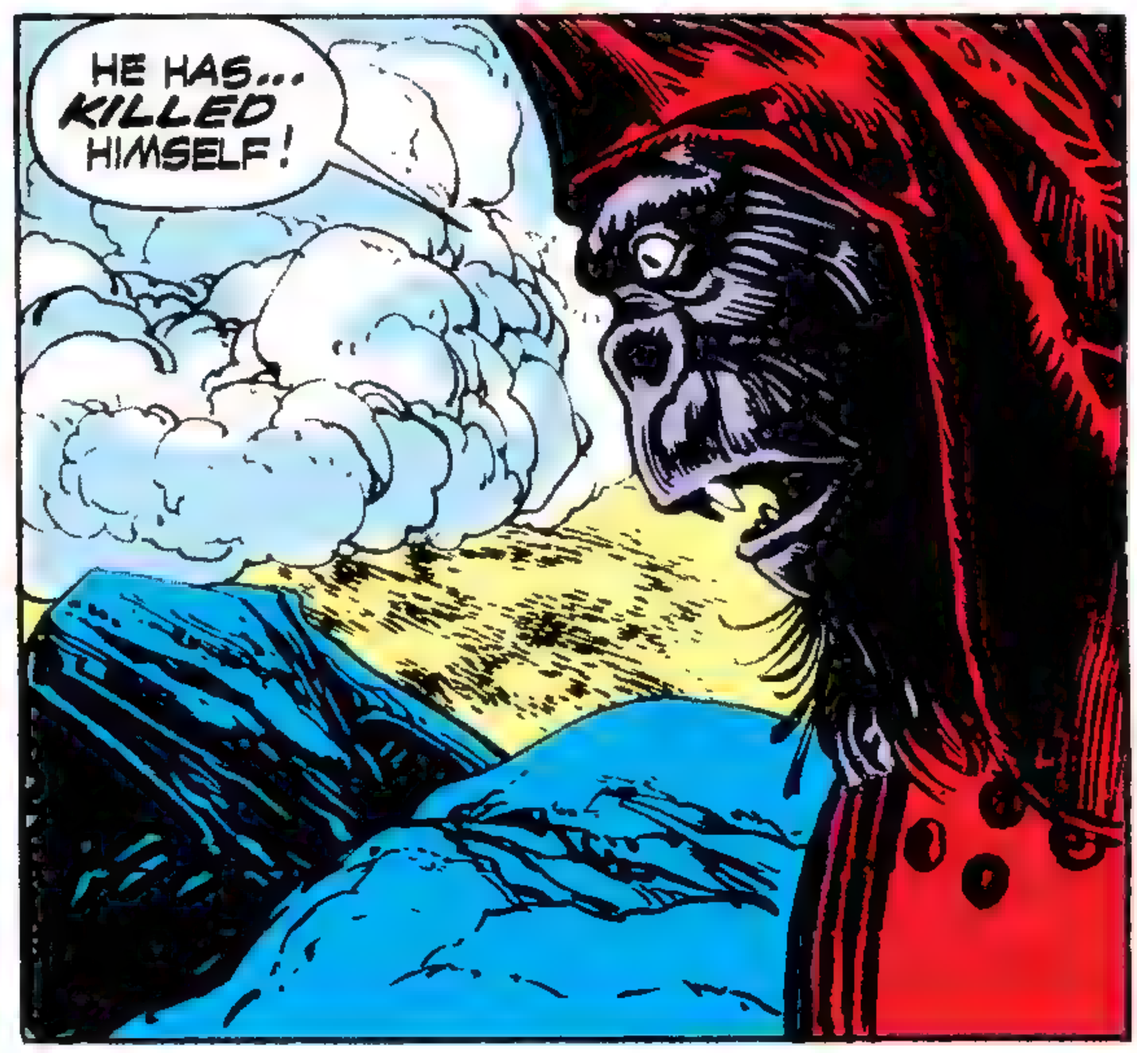

HE'S MAD! HE RIDES TO HIS DEATH--!

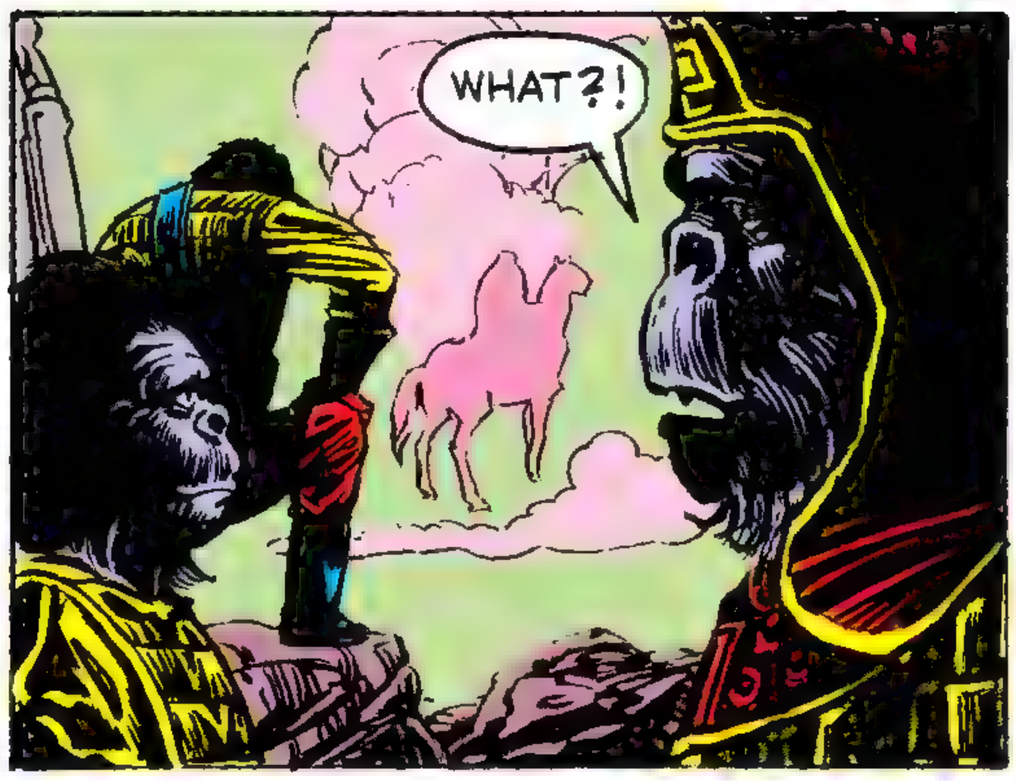

JUNE
JUNE



SHWUMPP!

BWA-
RHOOOM!


HE HAS... KILLED HIMSELF!


WHAT?!

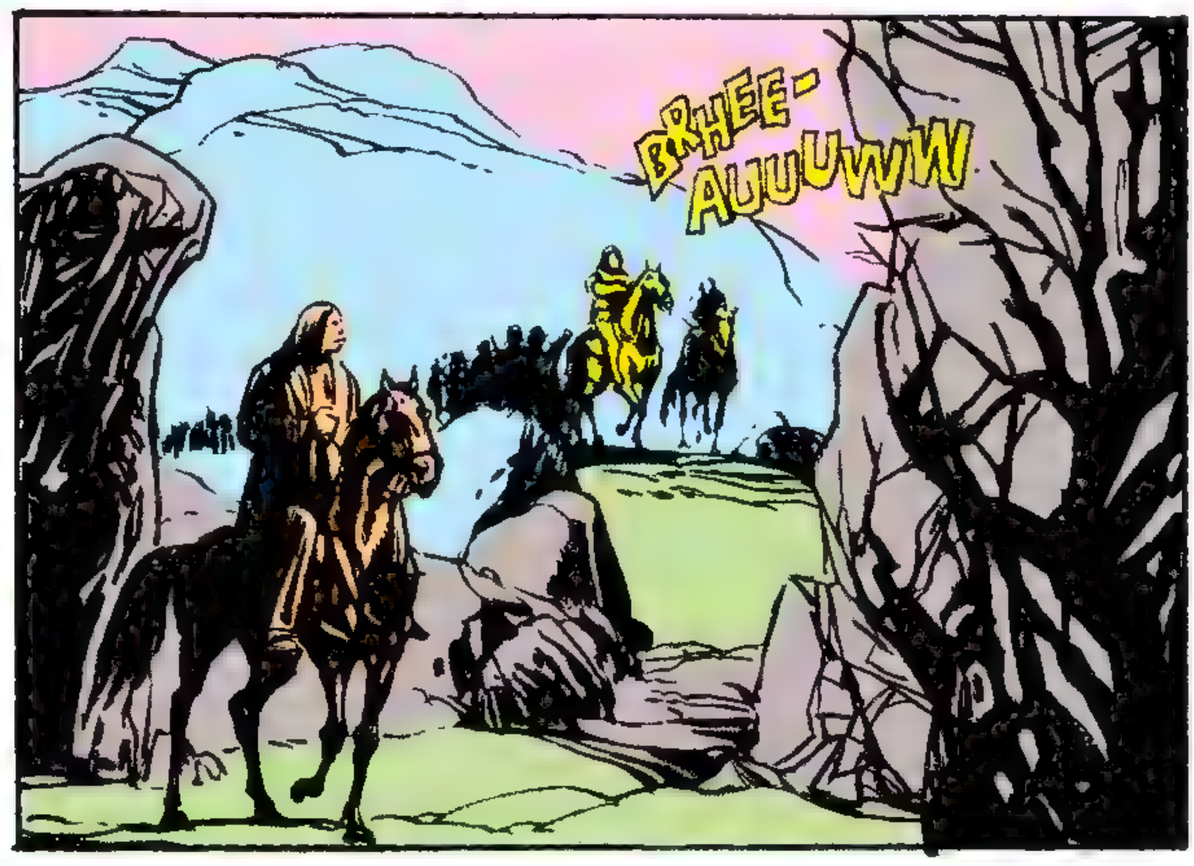
THE ILLUSION...

...IS OVER.

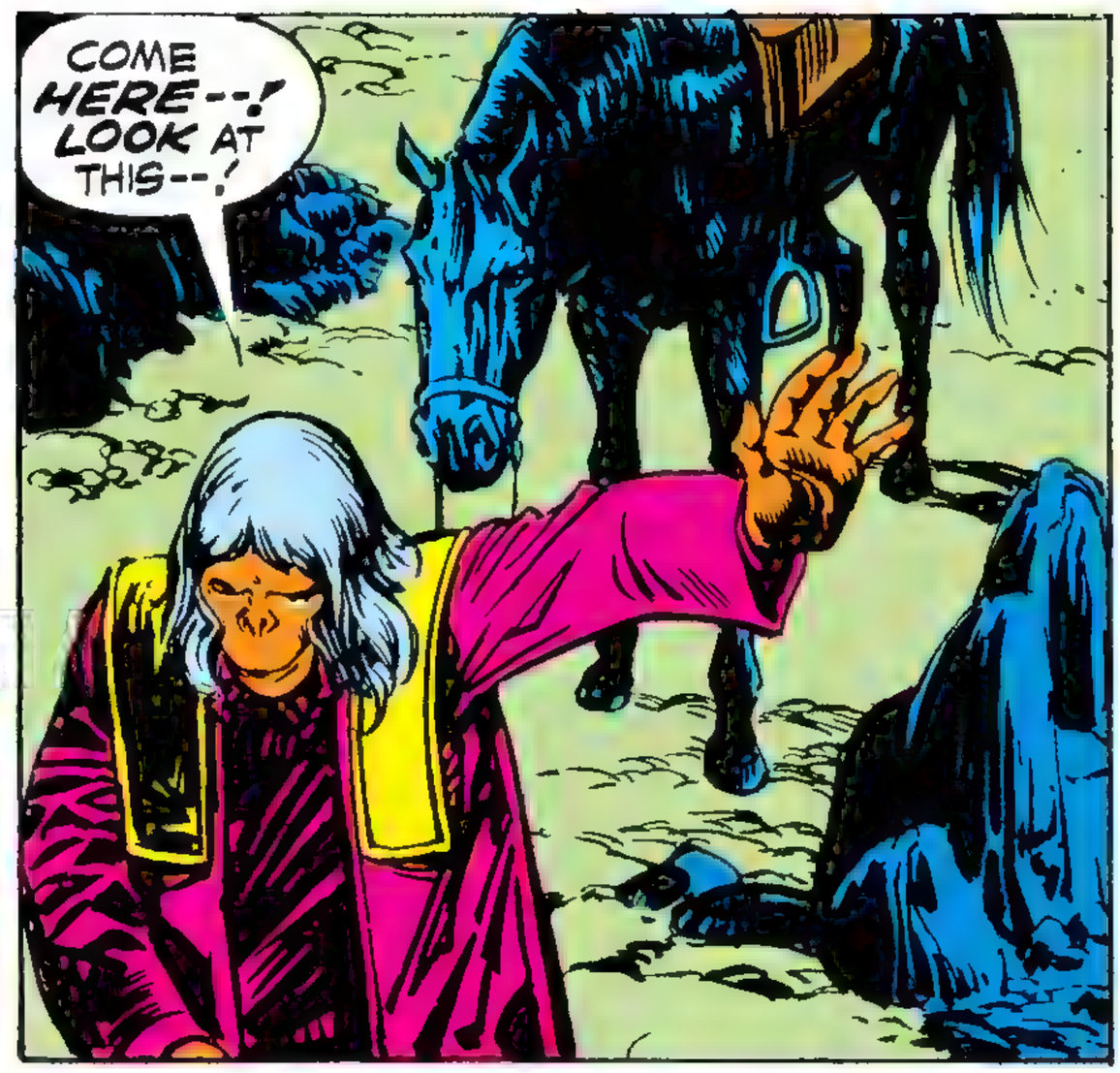
COME FORWARD, FELLOW APES.' THE WAY IS CLEAR!
I HAVE SHOWN YOU THE WAY TO TRUTH.!!

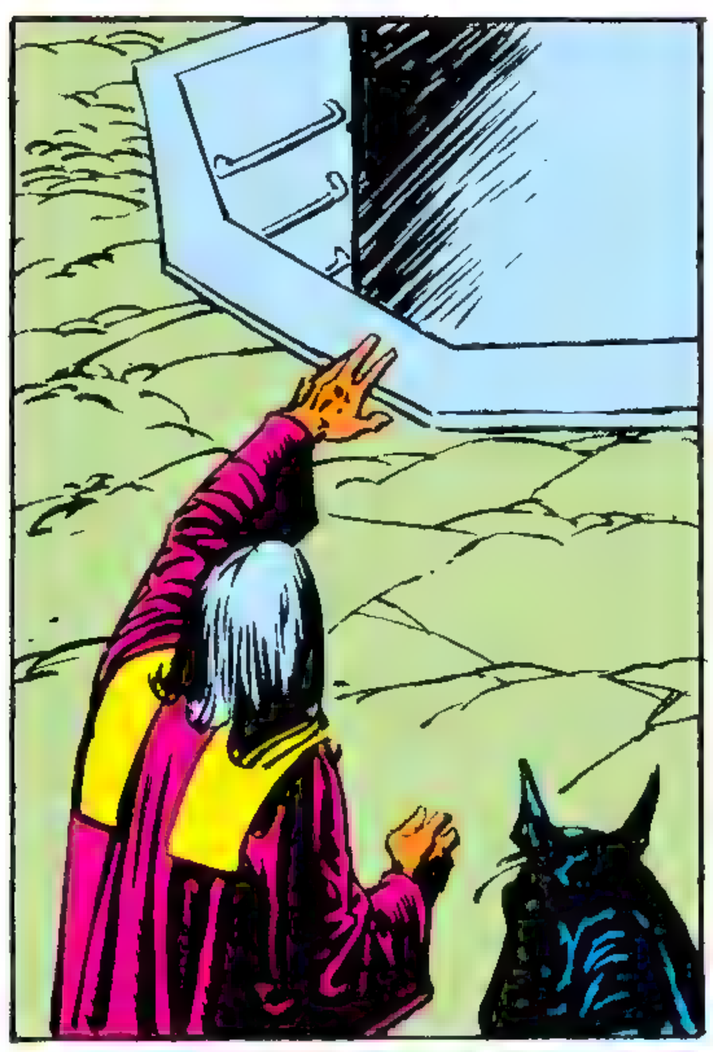
SHALL WE OBEY HIM, GENERAL URSUS...?

YES...BUT I AM THE ONE WHO IS ORDERING THE ADVANCE.
YES, SIR.


BRHEE-AUUUWW

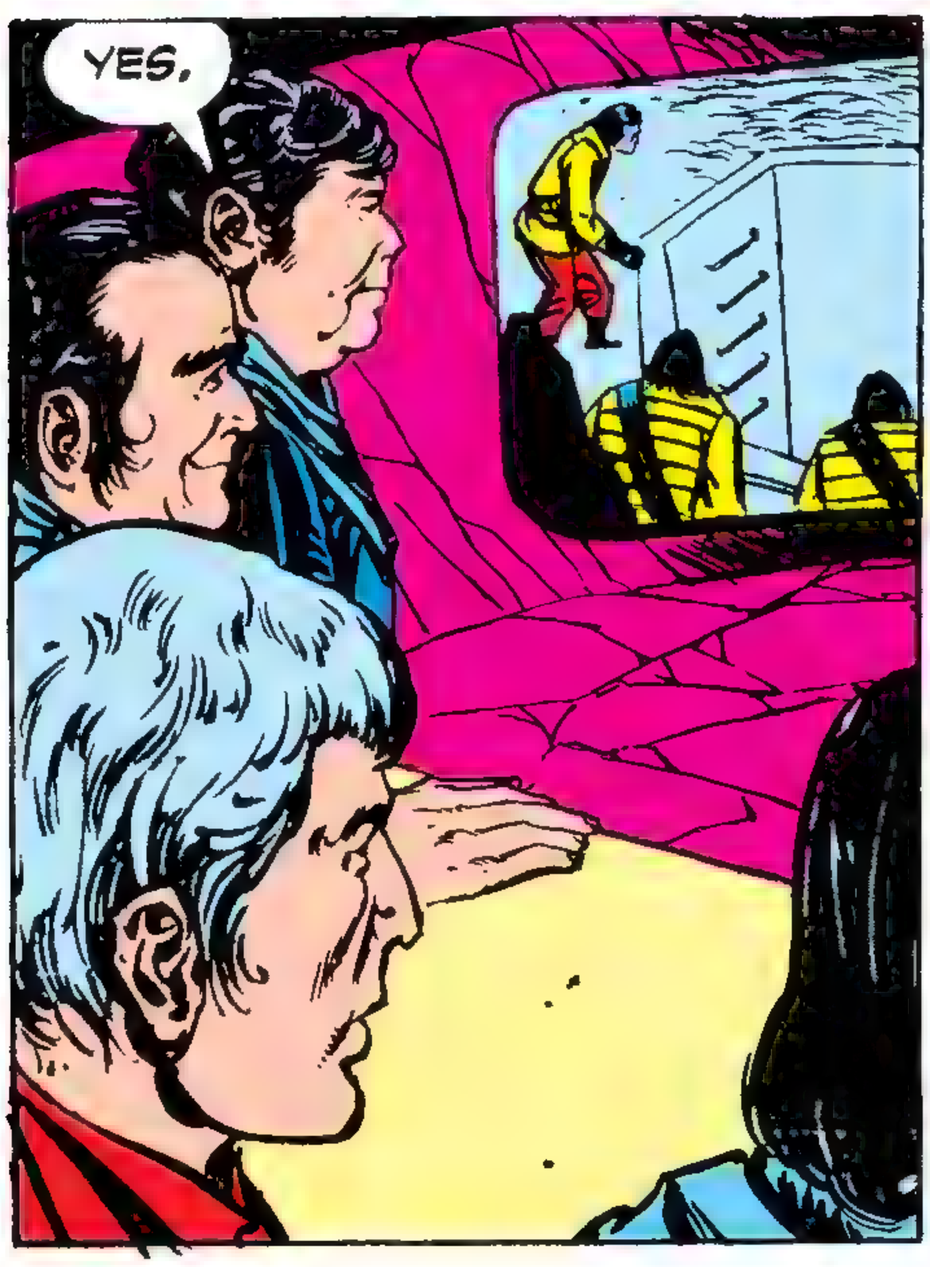
WAIT A MINUTE...

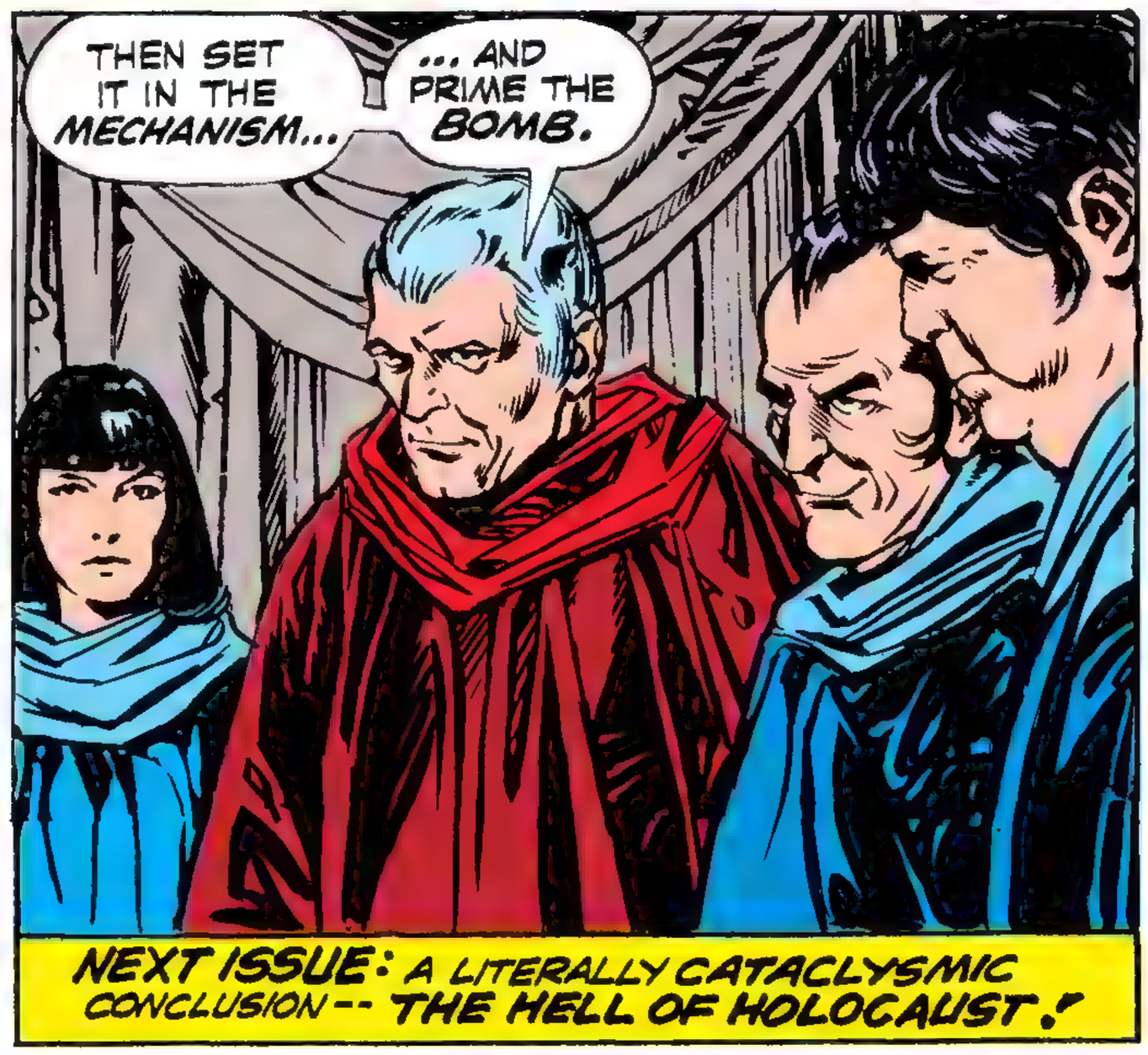

COME HERE--! LOOK AT THIS--!

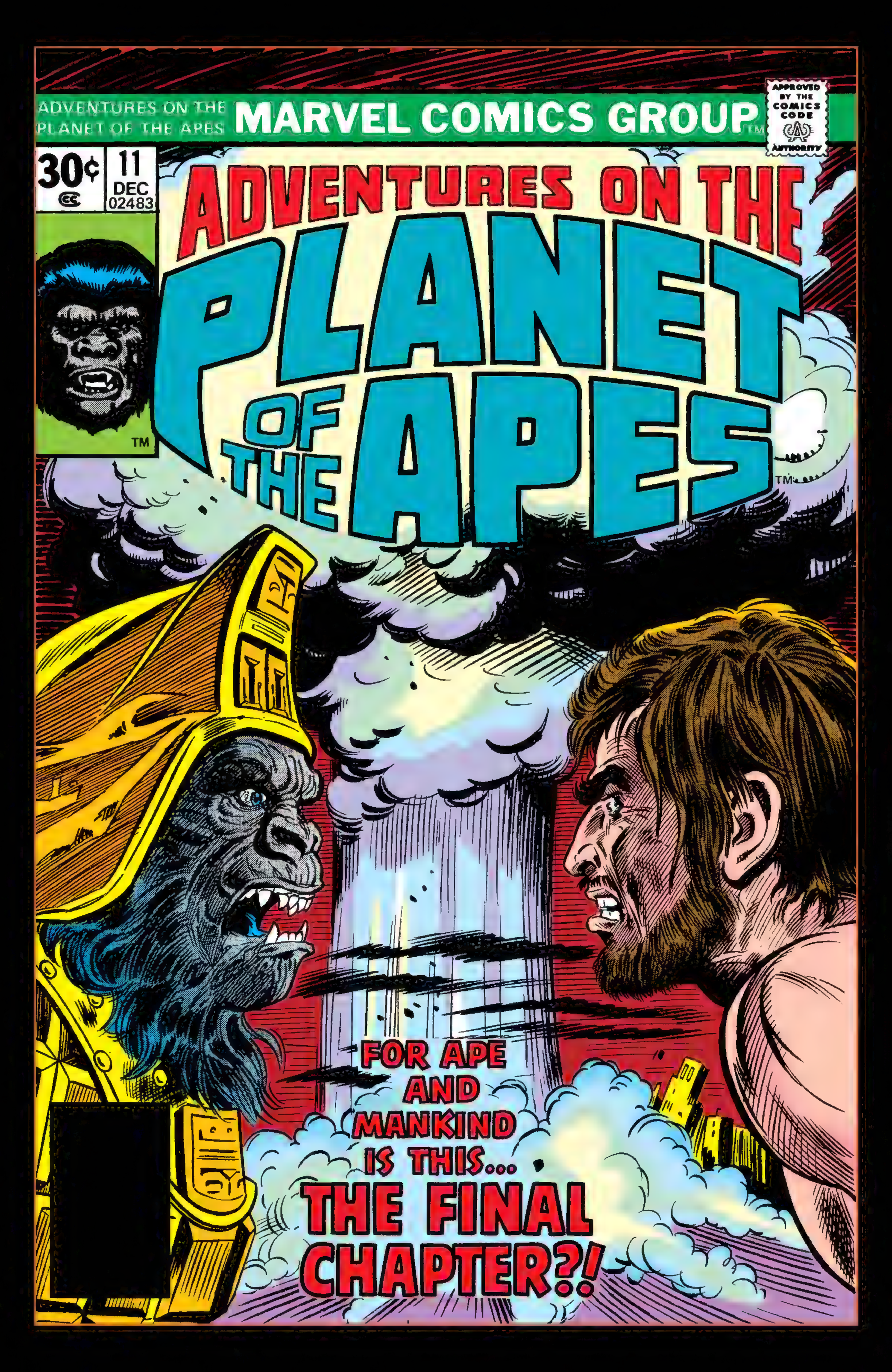


THERE ARE WAYS DOWN!

DO YOU KNOW THE RANGE OF THEIR CITY?


YES.


THEN SET IT IN THE MECHANISM...
... AND PRIME THE BOMB.
NEXT ISSUE: A LITERALLY CATACLYSMIC CONCLUSION -- THE HELL OF HOLOCAUST!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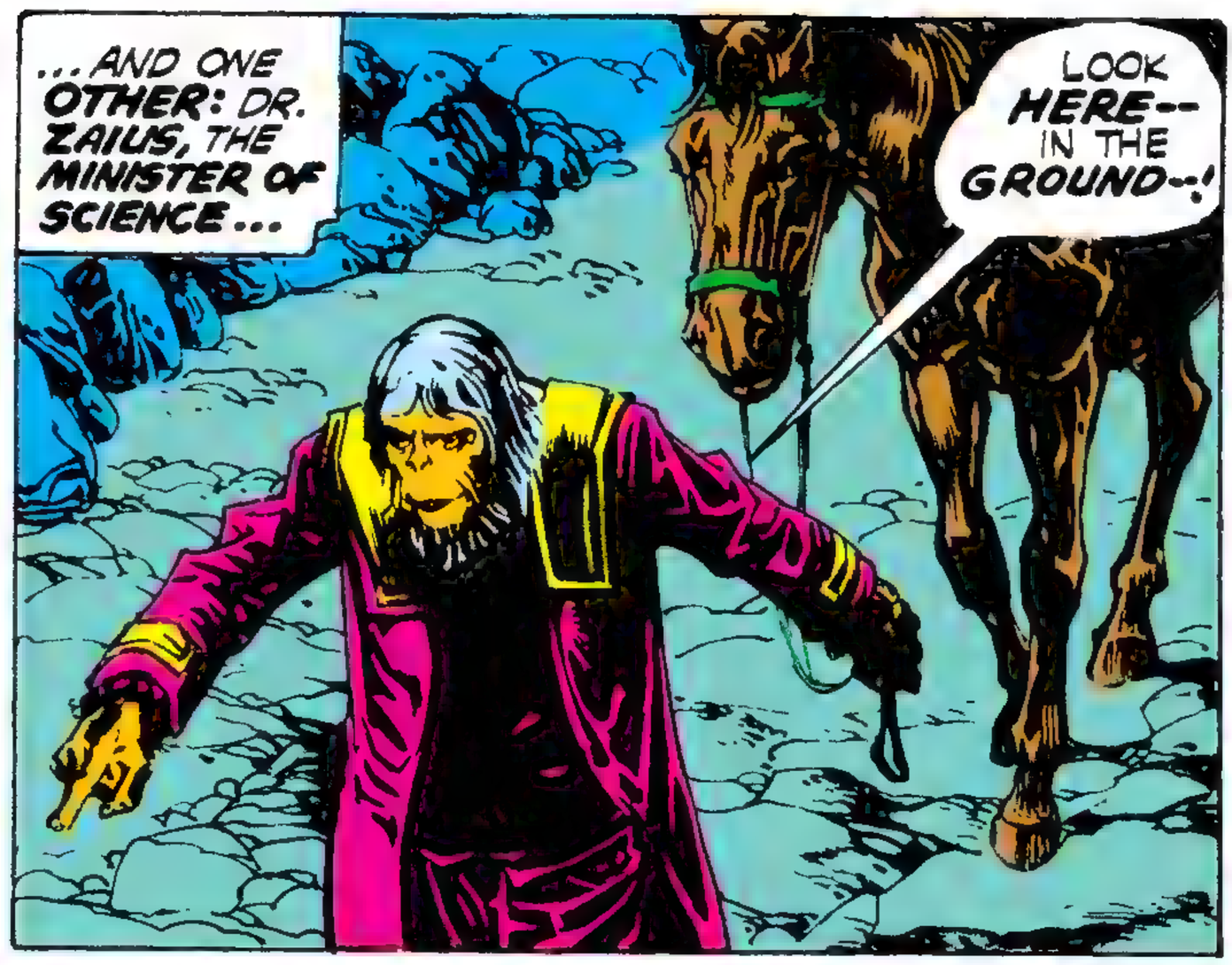
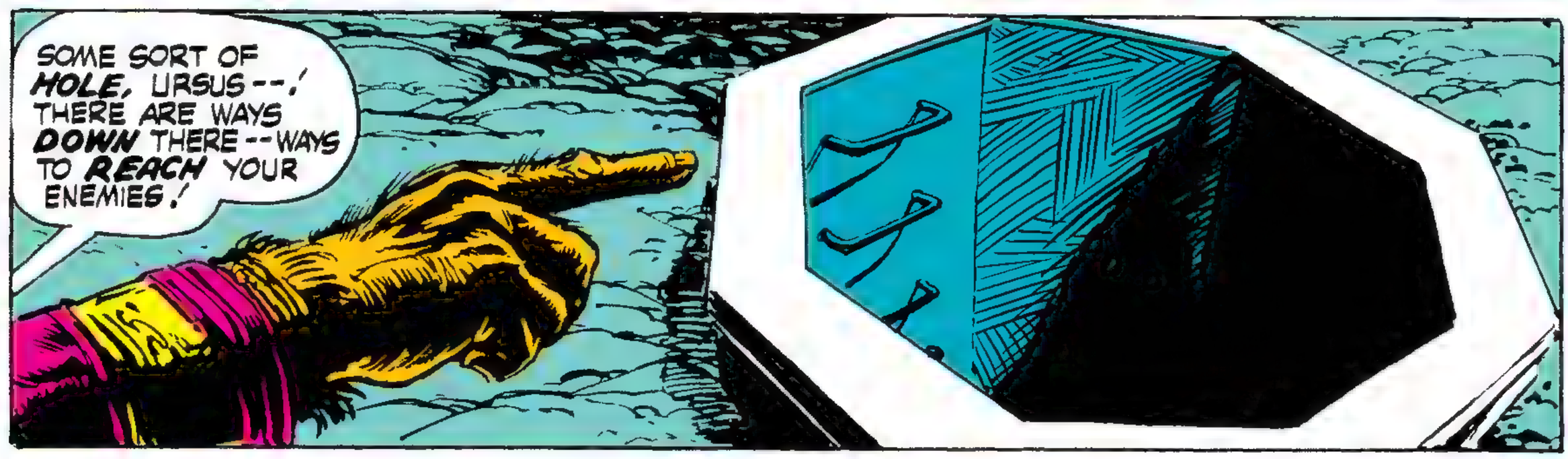
FOR APE AND MANKIND IS THIS...
THE FINAL CHAPTER?!

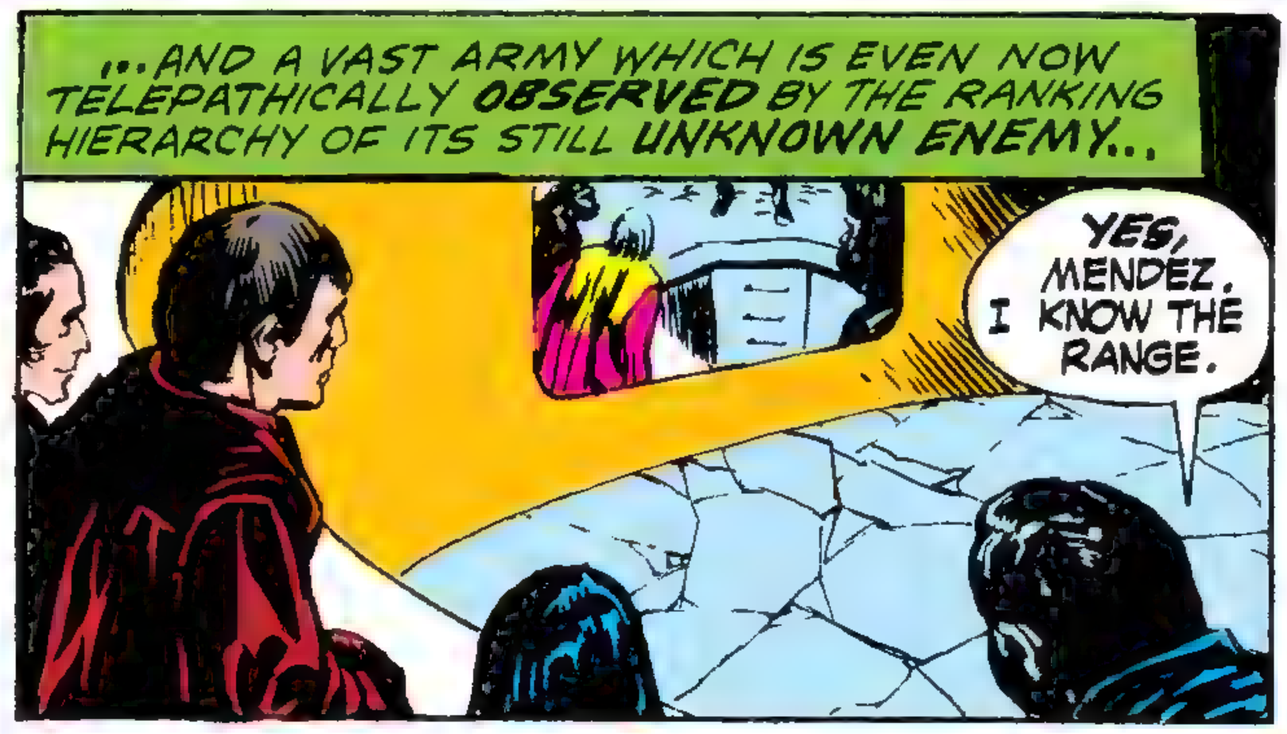
STAN LEE PRESENTS PLANET OF THE APES!™
THE AWESOME APE ARMY ON THE MARCH, A BIZARRE CARAVAN OF MOUNTED AND INFANTRY GORILLAS...RELENTLESSLY THREADING ITS WAY OVER THE RADIATION-MISTED TERRAIN OF THE FORBIDDEN ZONE...
...AN ARMY SEEKING ALL-OUT WAR...WITH AN ENEMY WHICH REMAINS MYSTERIOUSLY UNKNOWN...
THE HELL OF HOLOCAUST
WRITER: DOUG MOENCH
ARTIST: ALFREDO ALCALA
COLORIST: GEORGE ROUSSOS

...AND A VAST AND SPRAWLING LEGION OF MARAUDERS LED BY--
GENERAL URSUS--!

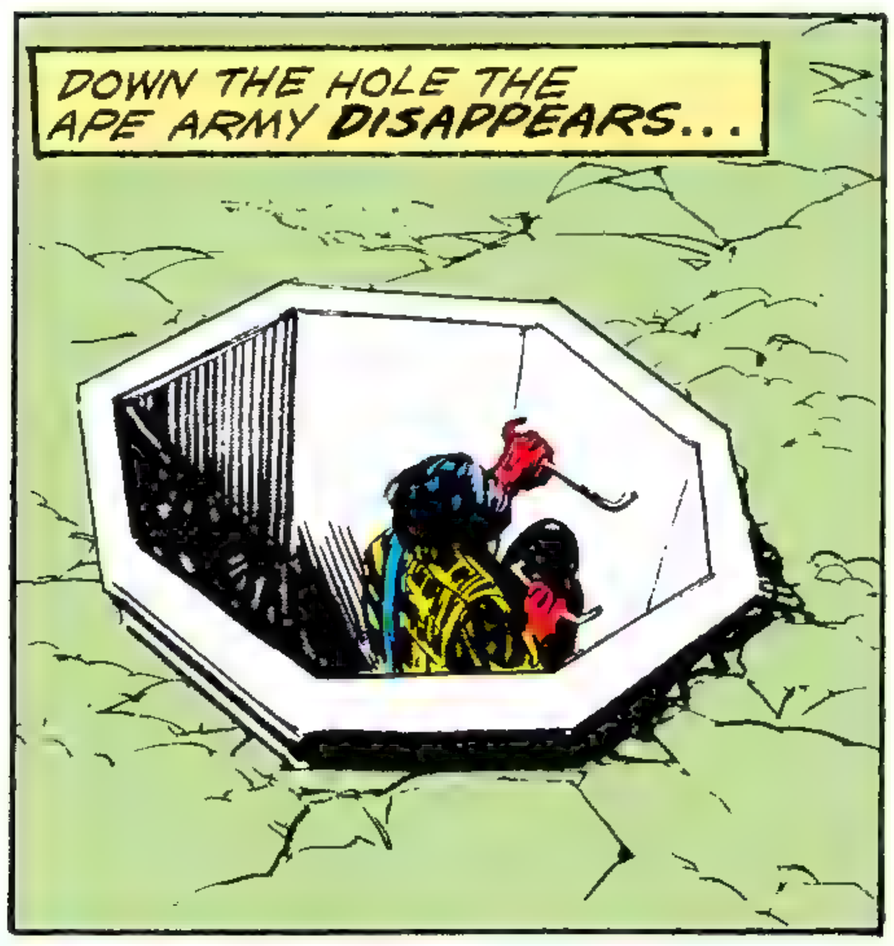

...AND ONE OTHER: DR. ZAIUS, THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE...
LOOK HERE-- IN THE GROUND--!

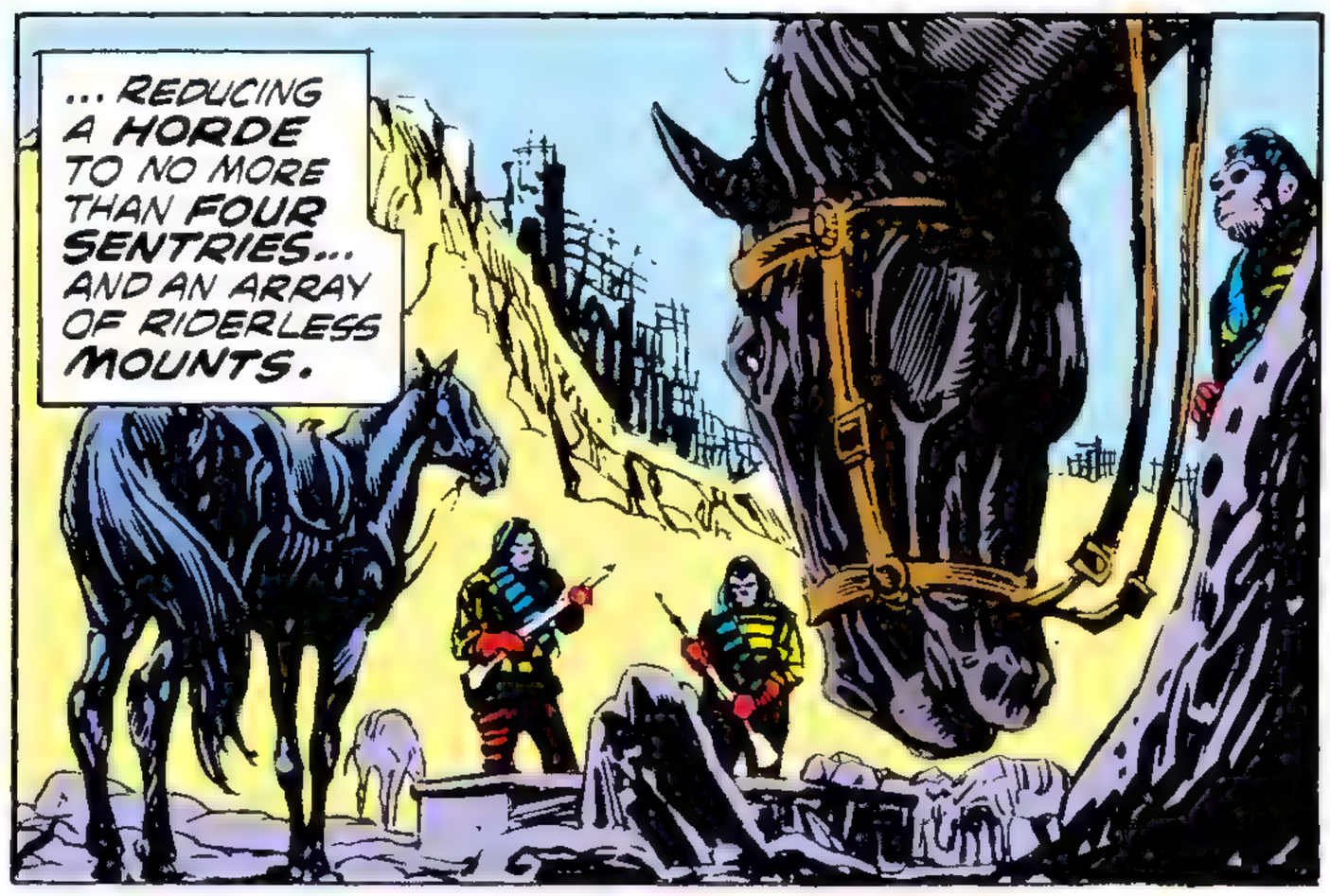

SOME SORT OF HOLE, URSUS--! THERE ARE WAYS DOWN THERE--WAYS TO REACH YOUR ENEMIES!

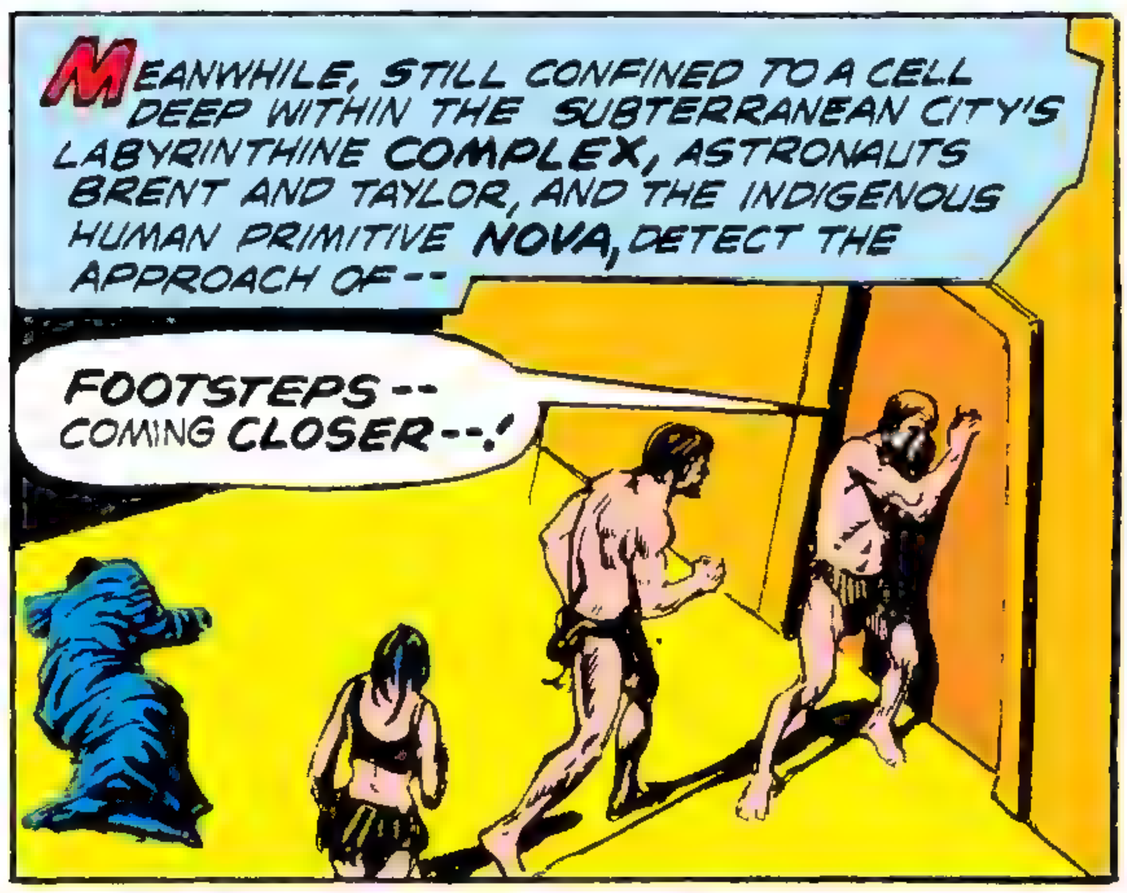
...A VAST ARMY LED BY TWO OF ITS SOCIETY'S MOST CAPABLE PERSONAGES...
YOU KNOW THE RANGE OF THEIR CITY--?


...AND A VAST ARMY WHICH IS EVEN NOW TELEPATHICALLY OBSERVED BY THE RANKING HIERARCHY OF ITS STILL UNKNOWN ENEMY...
YES, MENDEZ. I KNOW THE RANGE.

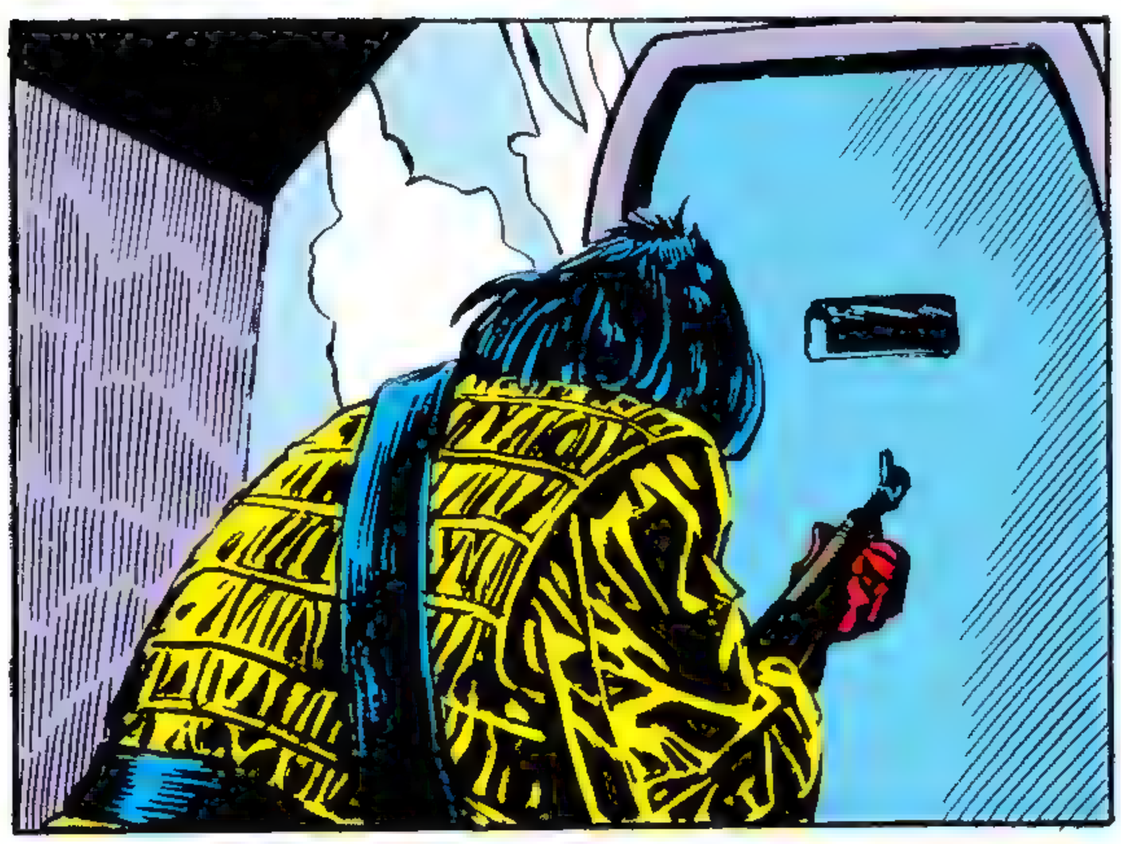
...THE MUTANT INQUISITORS.
THEN PROGRAM IT INTO THE MECHANISM AND STAND BY THE PRIME THE BOMB.

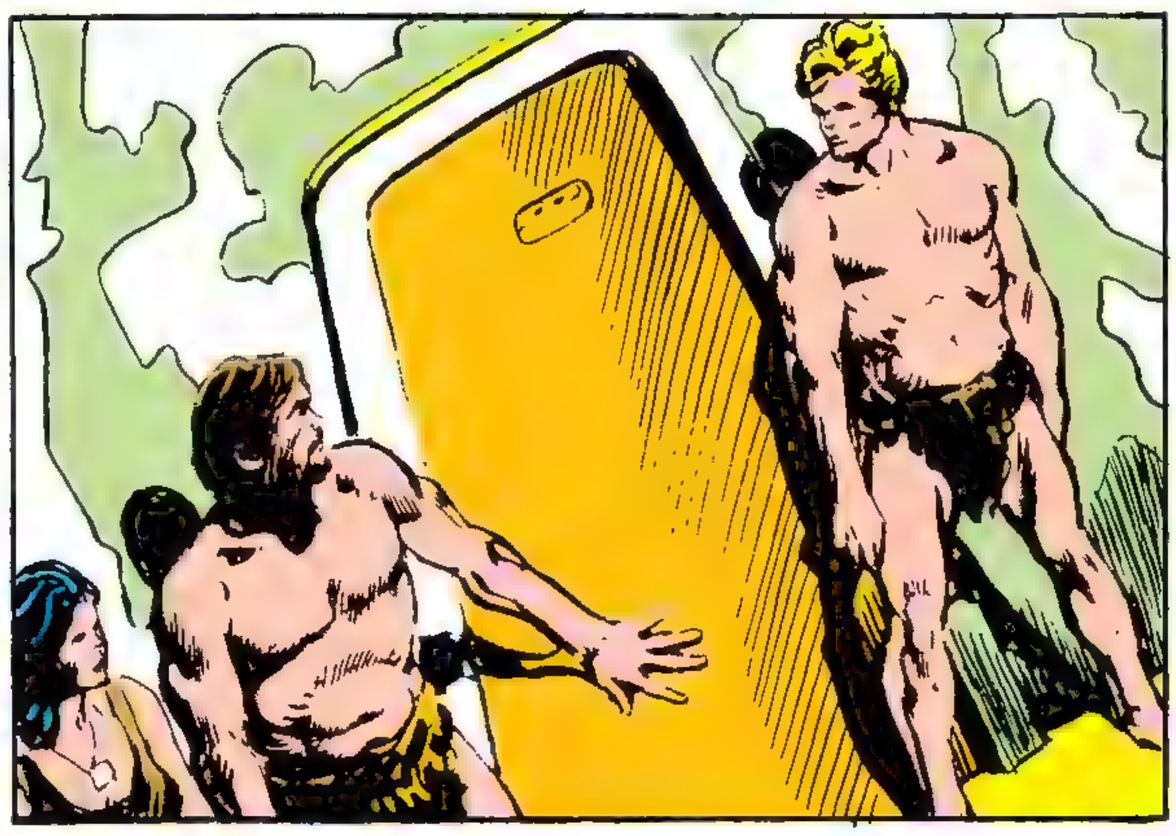

DOWN THE HOLE THE APE ARMY DISAPPEARS...


... REDUCING A HORDE TO NO MORE THAN FOUR SENTRIES... AND AN ARRAY OF RIDERLESS MOUNTS.

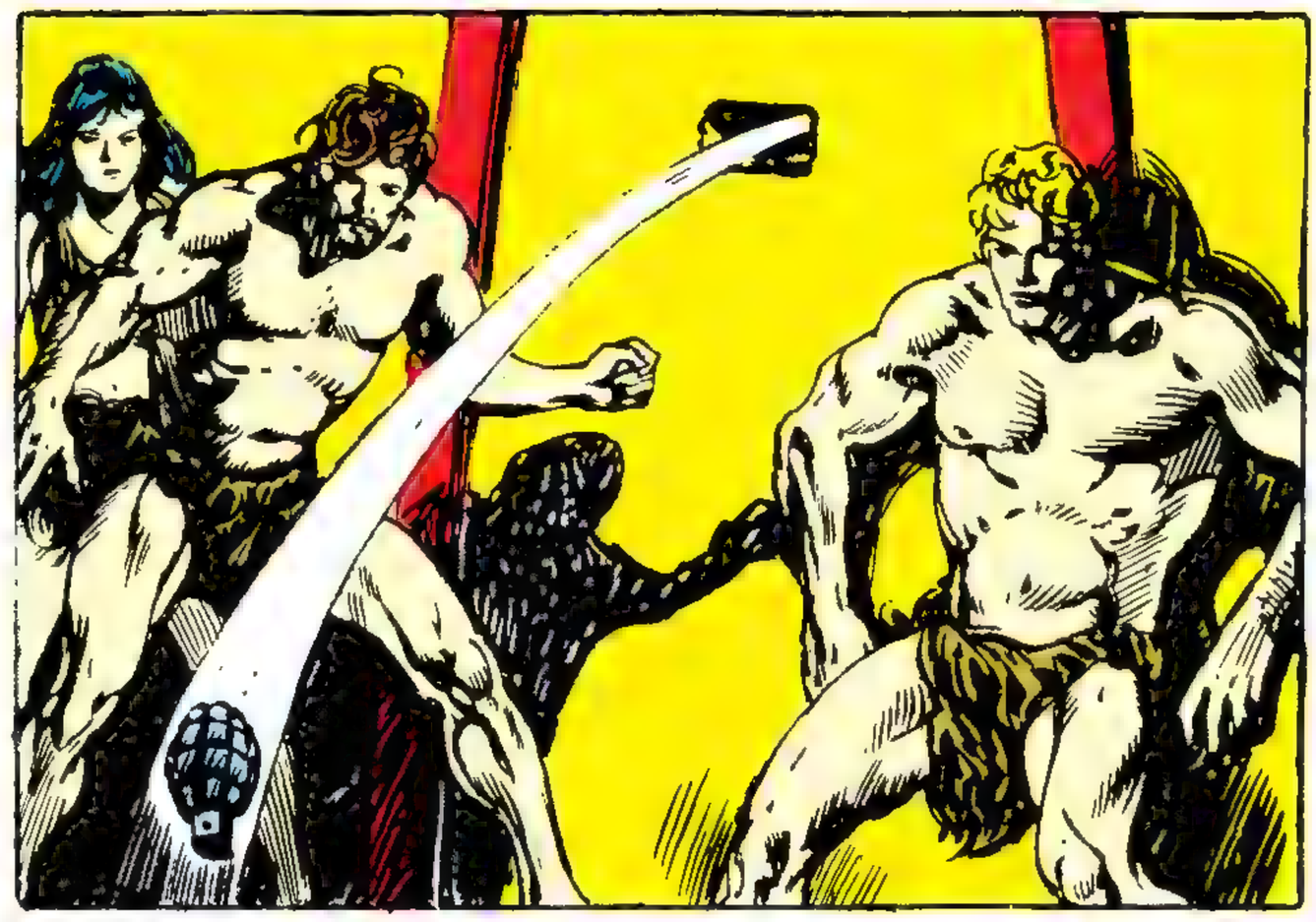

MEANWHILE, STILL CONFINED TO A CELL DEEP WITHIN THE SUBTERRANEAN CITY'S LABYRINTHINE COMPLEX, ASTRONAUTS BRENT AND TAYLOR, AND THE INDIGENOUS HUMAN PRIMITIVE NOVA, DETECT THE APPROACH OF--
FOOTSTEPS-- COMING CLOSER--!

FLATTEN AGAINST THE WALL AND KEEP QUIET...





I'D BEST MAKE SURE.

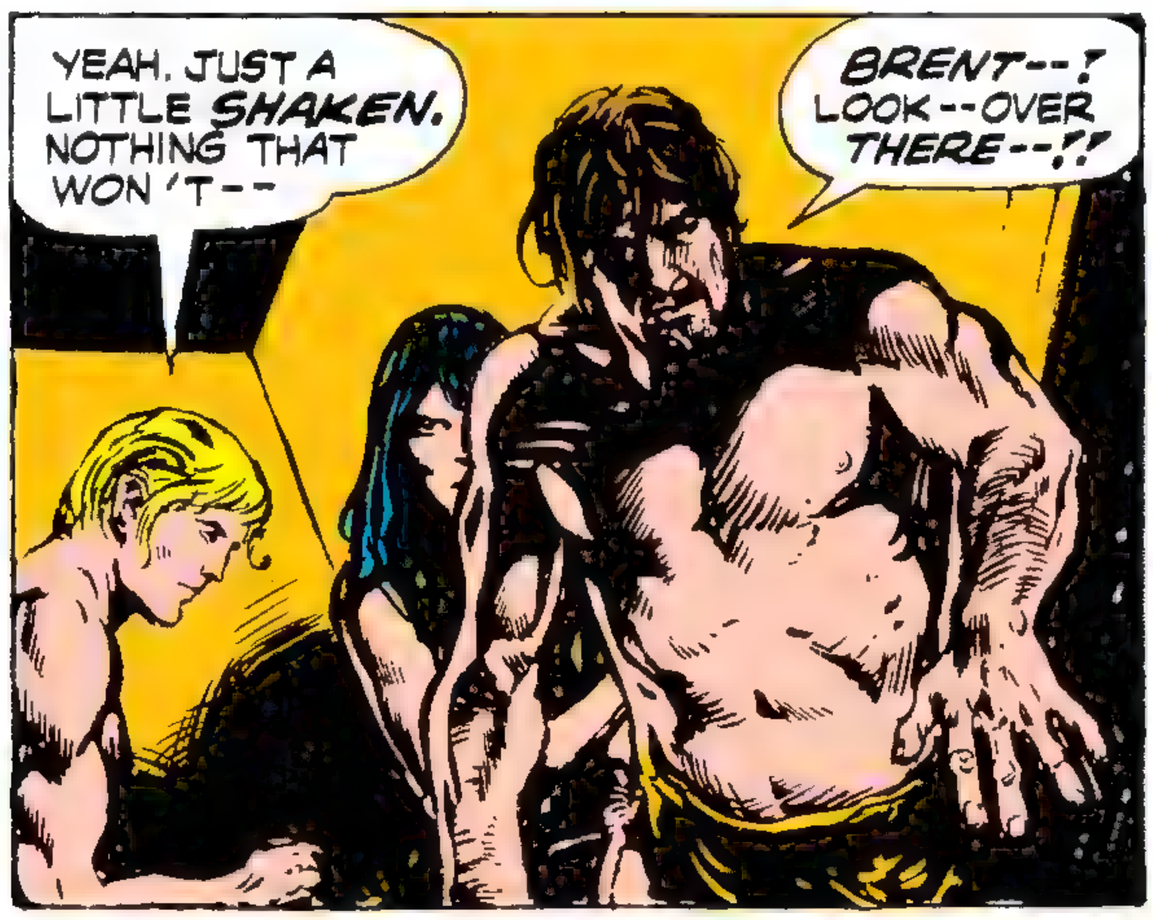


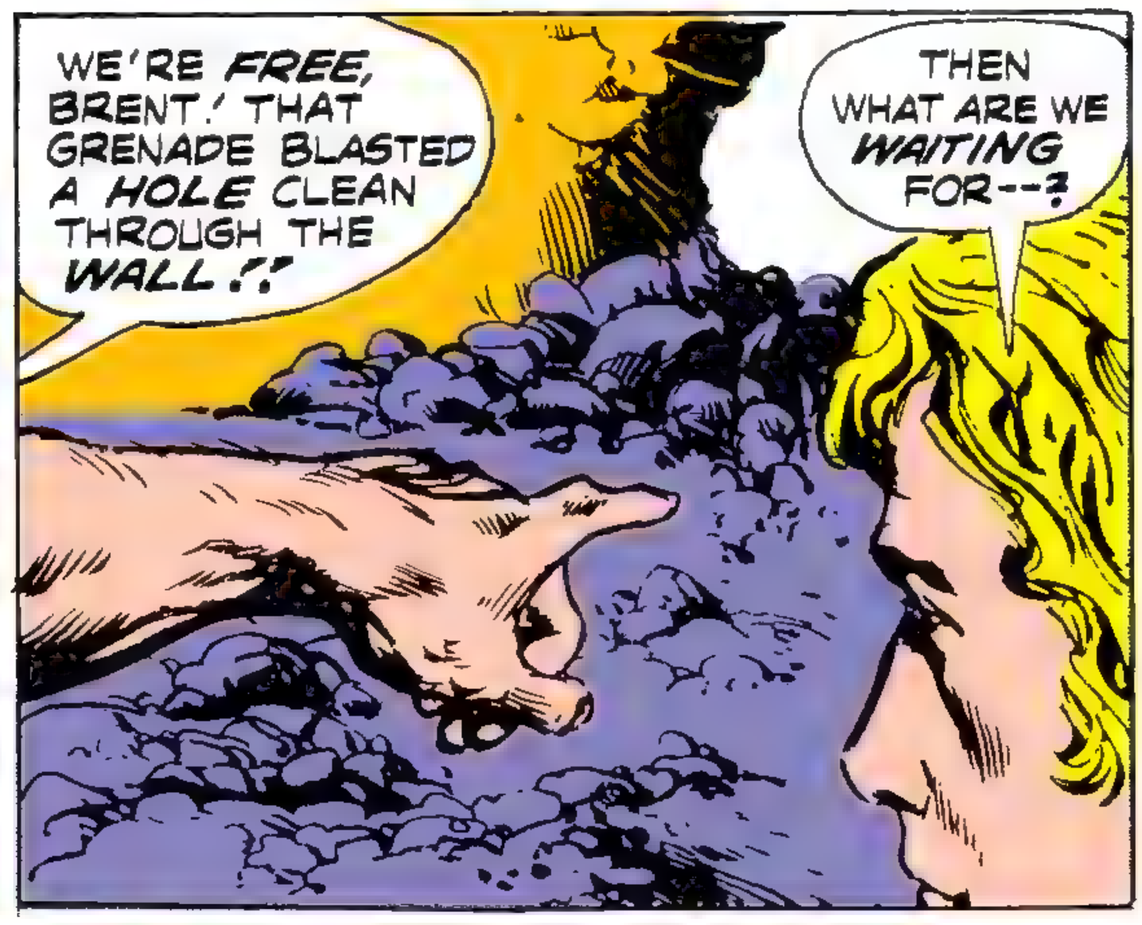
BWHOOOM

ONE CAN NEVER BE TOO CAREFUL, BROTHER TALIUS...AT LEAST NOT WHERE THE ENEMY IS CONCERNED.
THUS, EVEN IF THERE WERE ANYONE IN THAT ROOM--

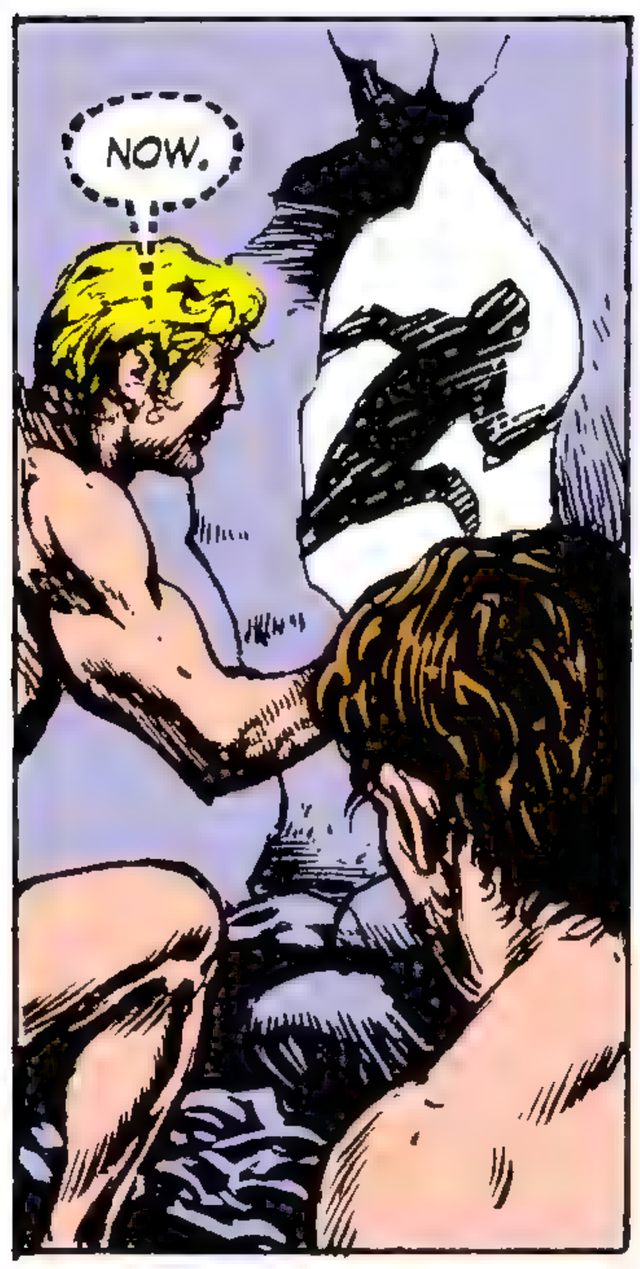
"--THEY CERTAINLY WON'T BE ABLE TO BOAST ABOUT IT NOW."

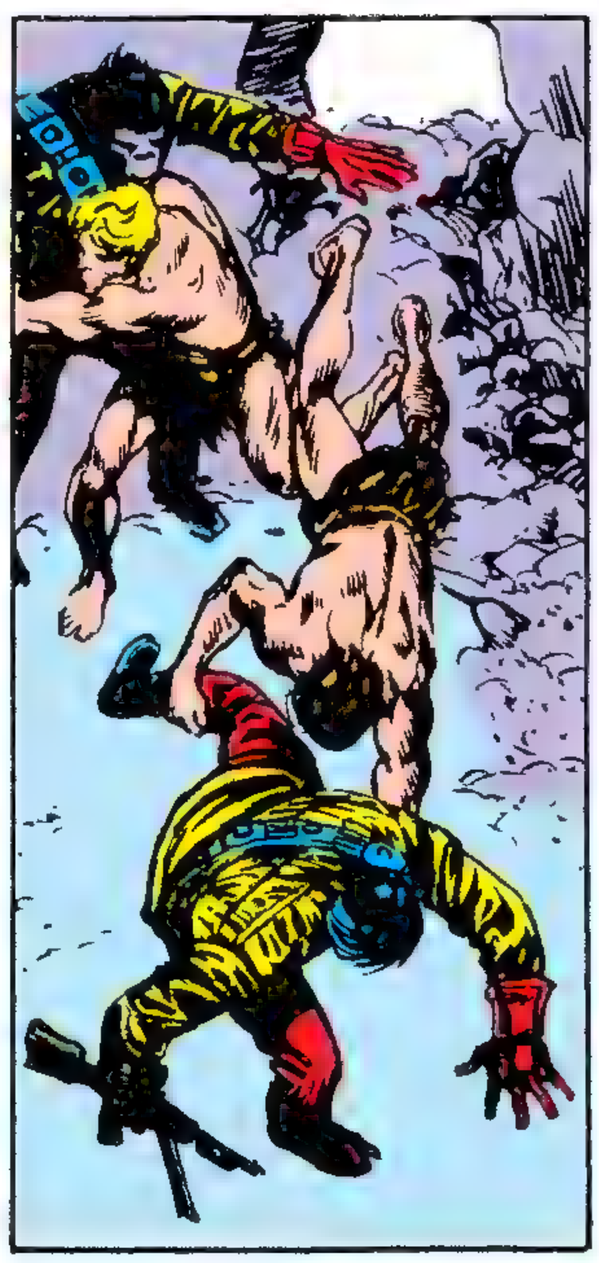
TAYLOR...?
YEAH. I'LL LIVE. YOU...?

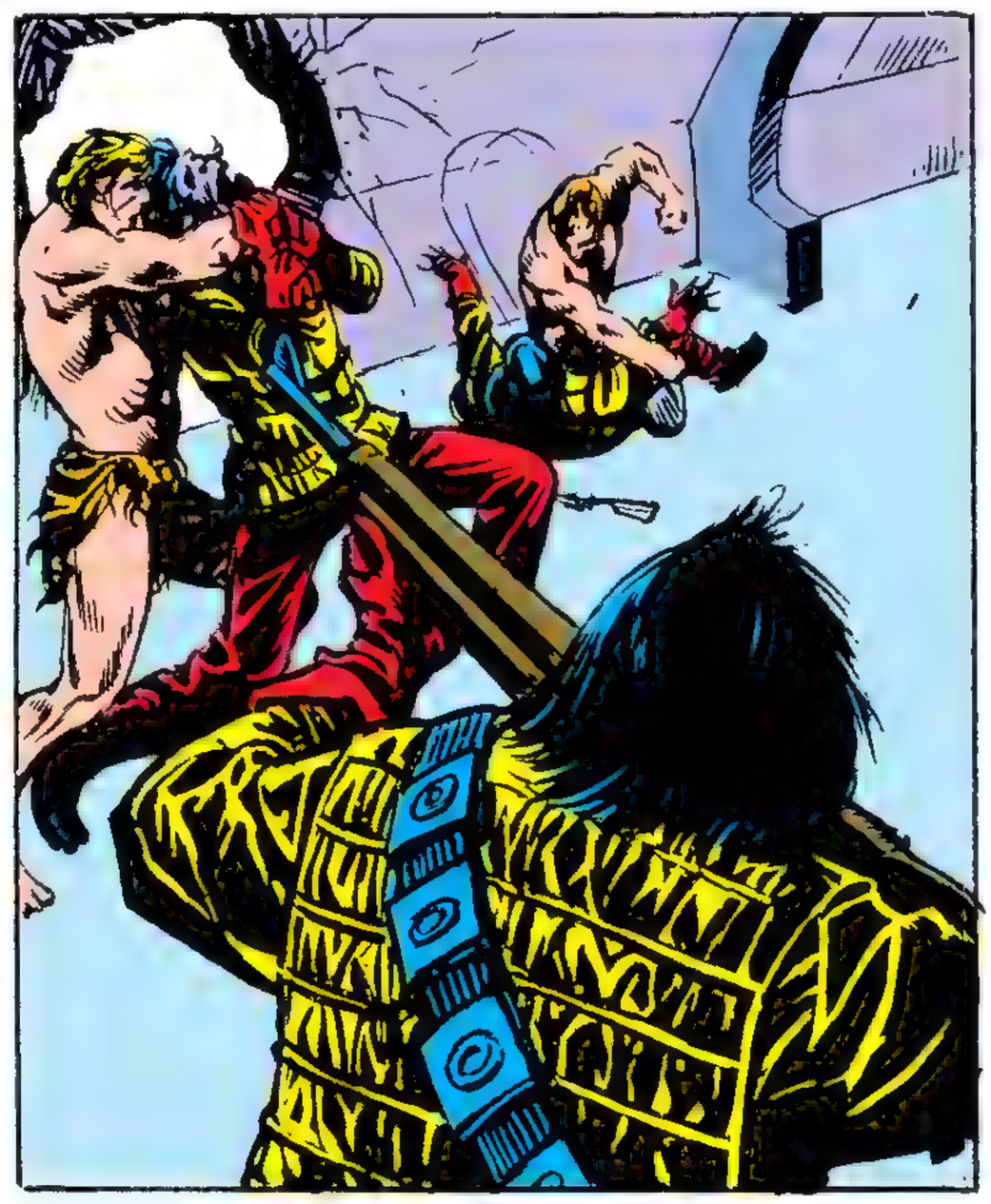

YEAH. JUST A LITTLE SHAKEN. NOTHING THAT WON'T--
BRENT--! LOOK--OVER THERE--!!

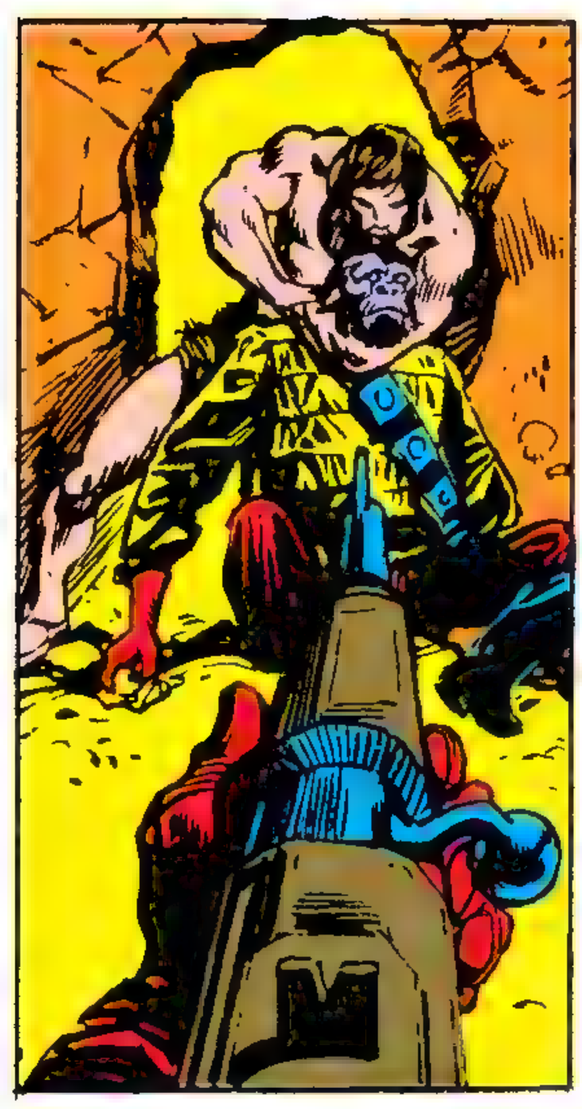

WE'RE FREE, BRENT! THAT GRENADE BLASTED A HOLE CLEAN THROUGH THE WALL!!
THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR--?

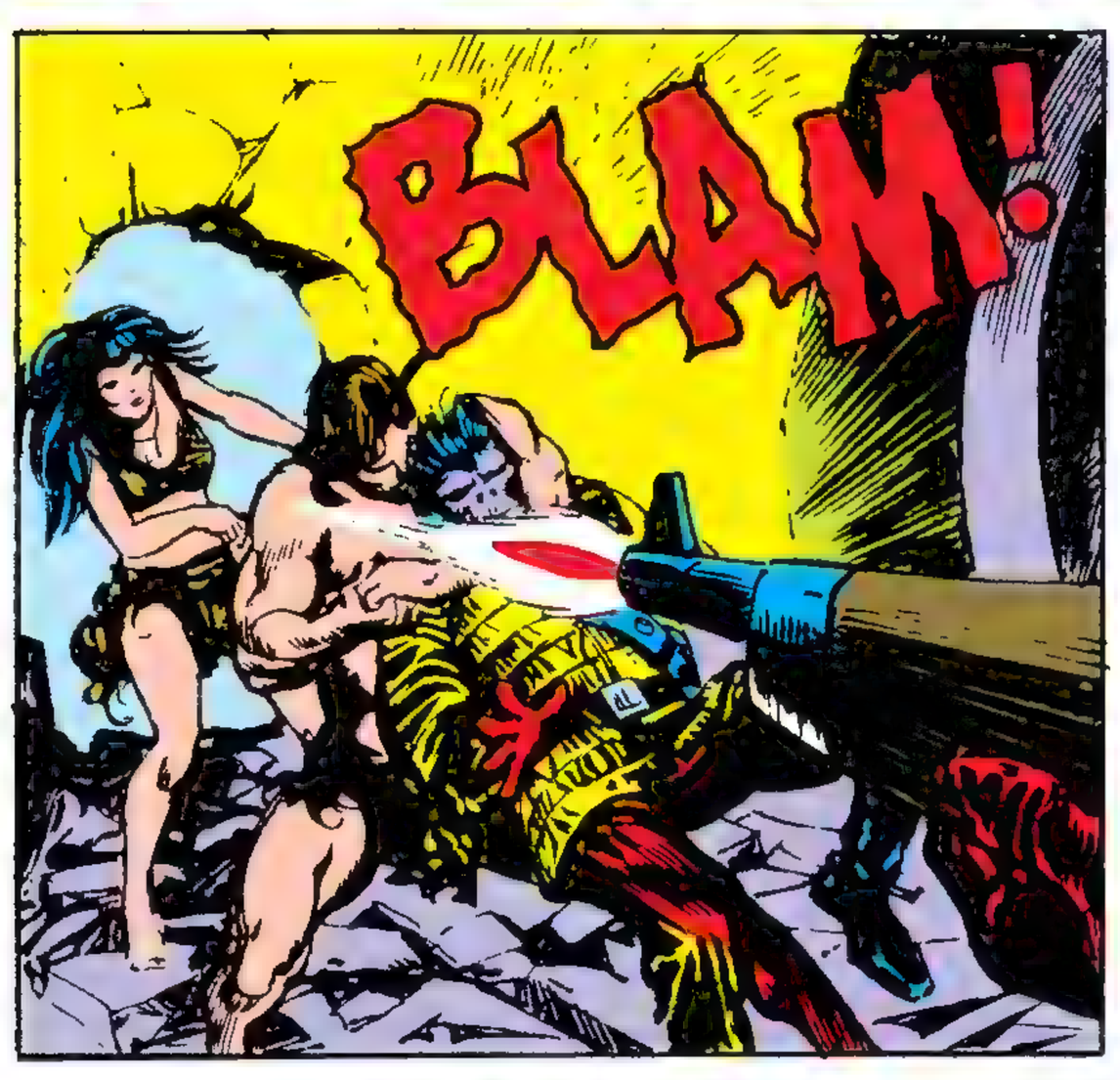
AAIEEEEE!!
WE MUST FLEE!!

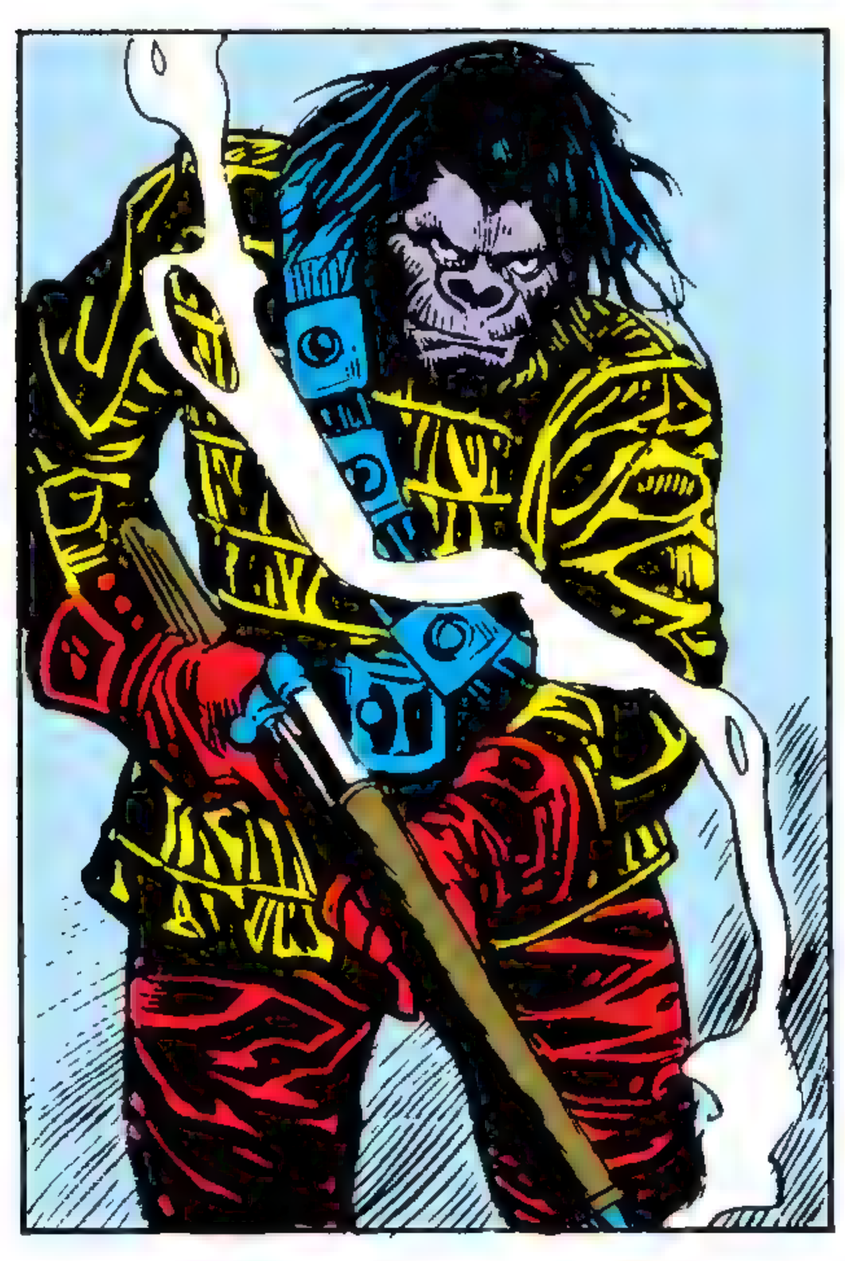

NOW.

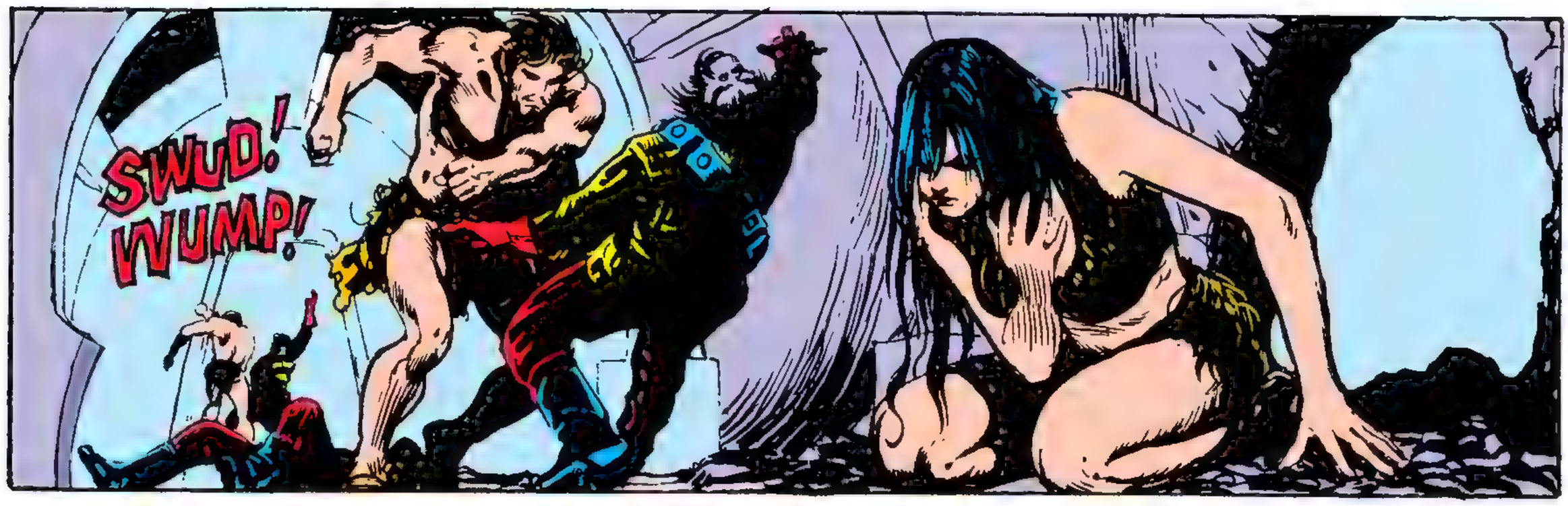




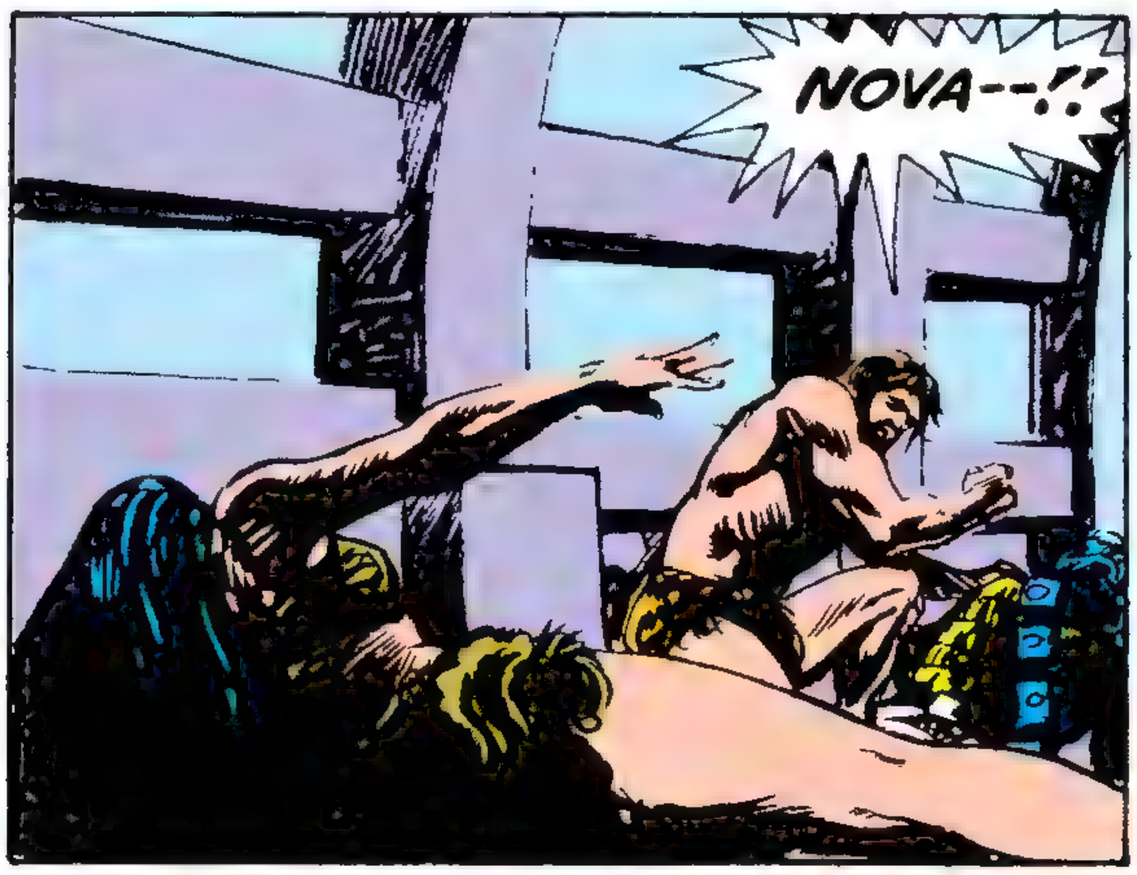


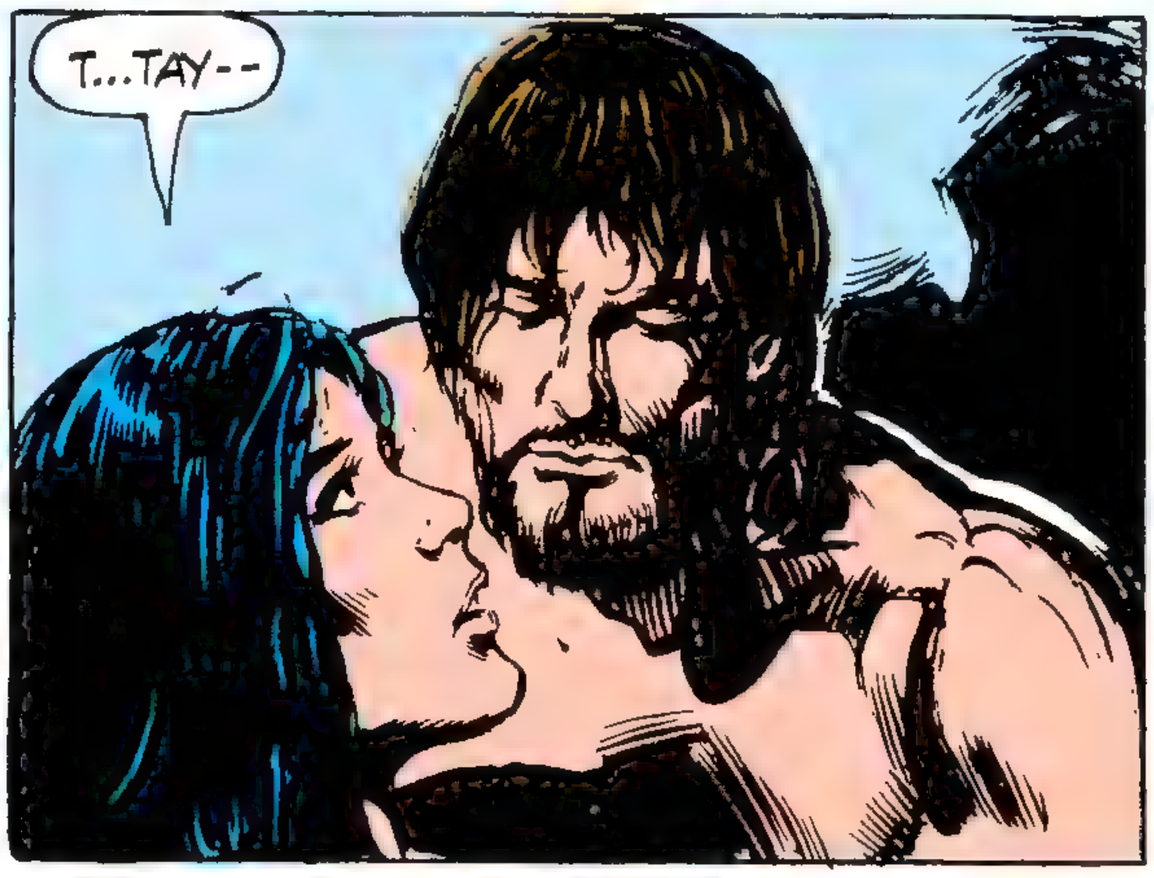

BLAM!

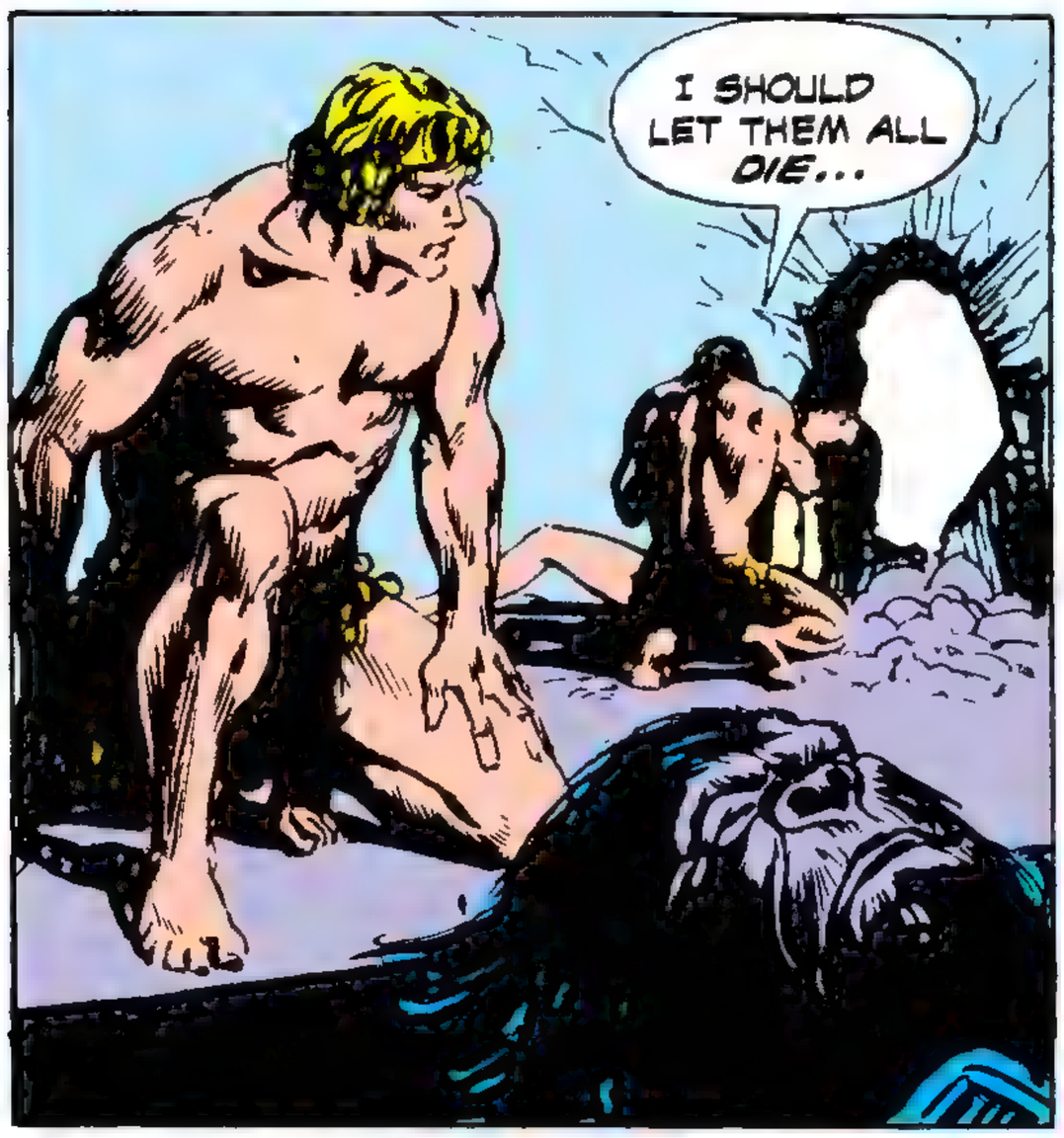



SWUD!
WUMP!

TAY...LOR...


NOVA--!?


T...TAY--

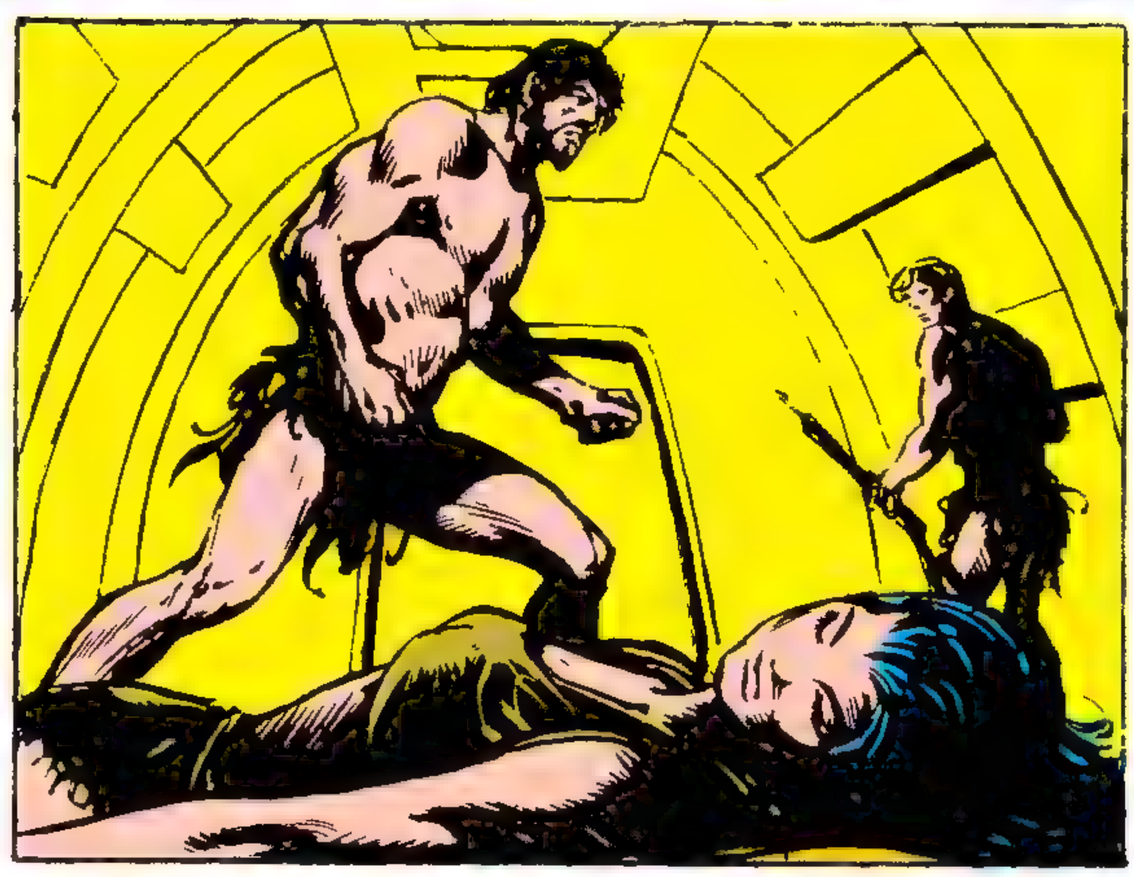

I SHOULD LET THEM ALL DIE...

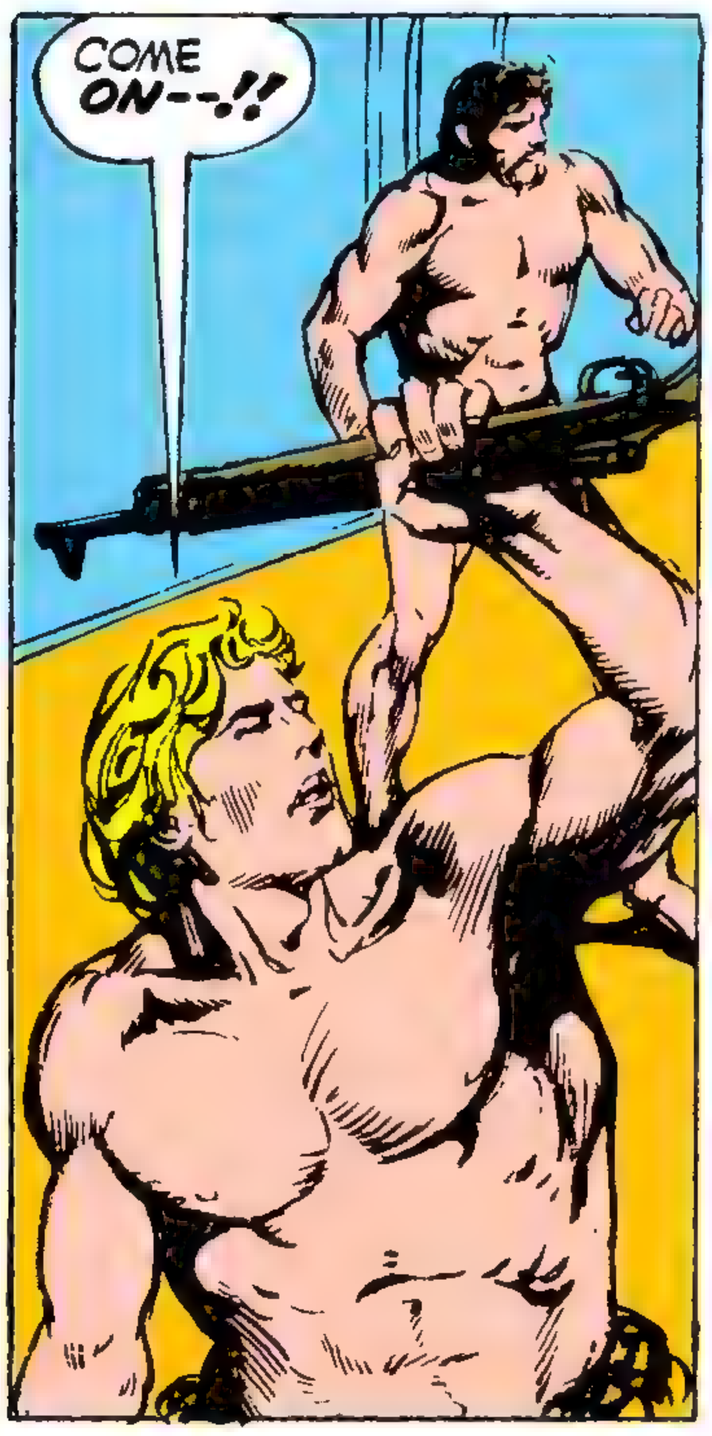
ALL OF THEM! NOT JUST THE GORILLAS--! EVERYONE! EVERY LIVING THING!!
US TOO--!!

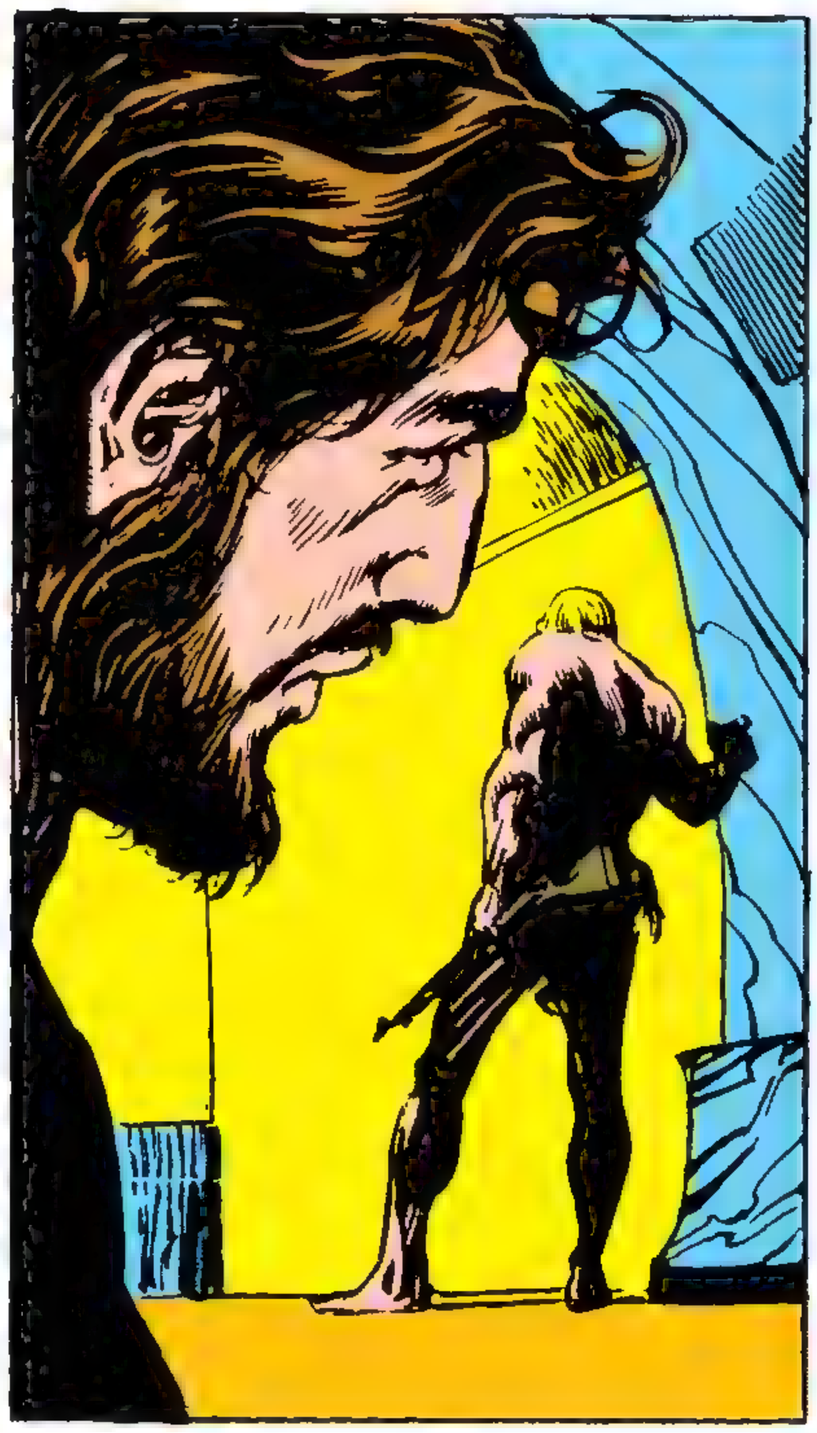
LOOK HOW IT ALL ENDS! IT'S TIME IT WAS FINISHED--!
FINISHED!!

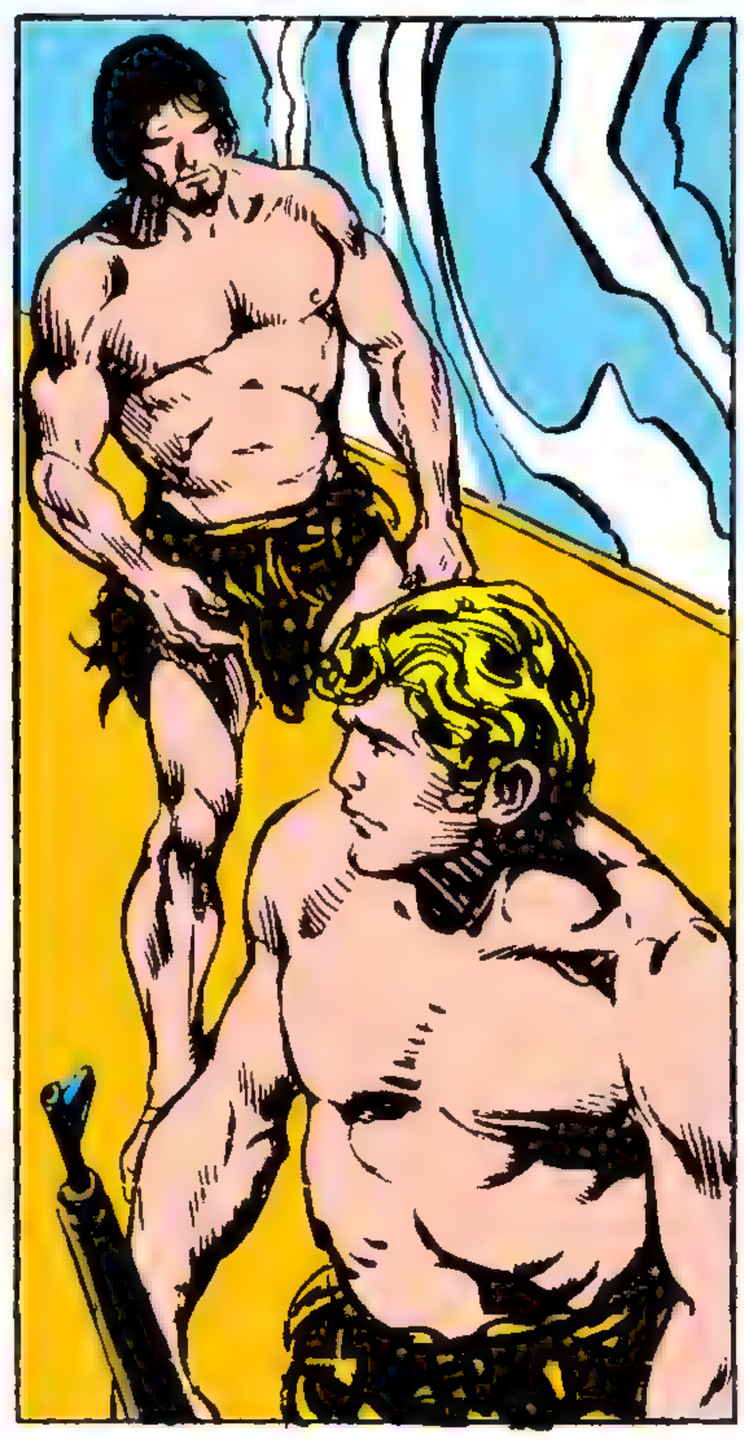
TAYLOR-- SNAP OUT OF IT, MAN! WE'VE GOT TO HURRY!
WE'VE GOT TO STOP THAT BOMB--!

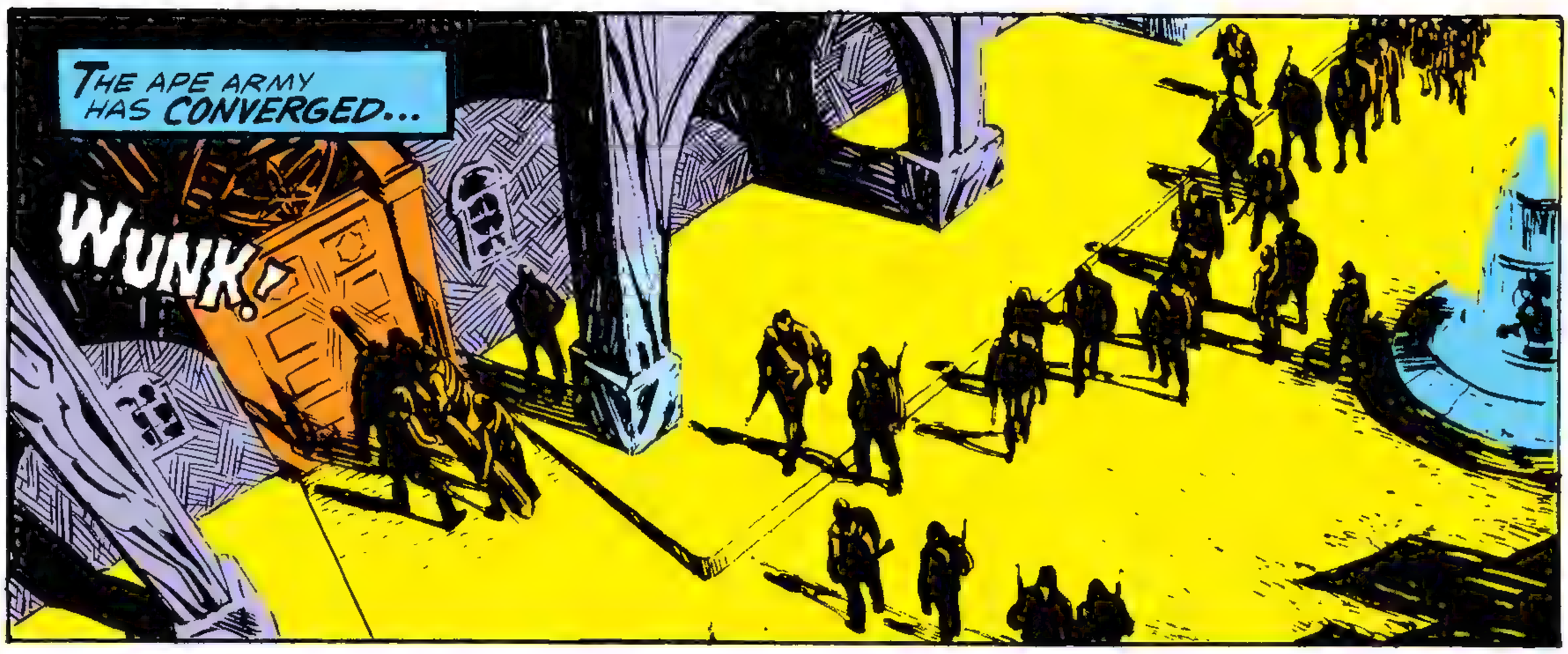
NOW COME ON, TAYLOR!




COME ON--!!






THE APE ARMY HAS CONVERGED...
WUNK!

...AND PENETRATED THE HEART OF THE MYSTERIOUS CITY...
BRASHH!

FORWARD!

A HUMAN--!

SOLDIERS, ARREST THAT... CREATURE... AND BRING IT TO ME.

TEK

VMMMM

THE INSTRUMENT OF MY GOD SHALL NOW RISE BEFORE YOU!

HE CAN SPEAK--!
A HUMAN WHO CAN SPEAK--!

YOUR GOD, HUMAN?
YOUR GOD DIDN'T SAVE YOU, DID HE--?

KILL HIM.

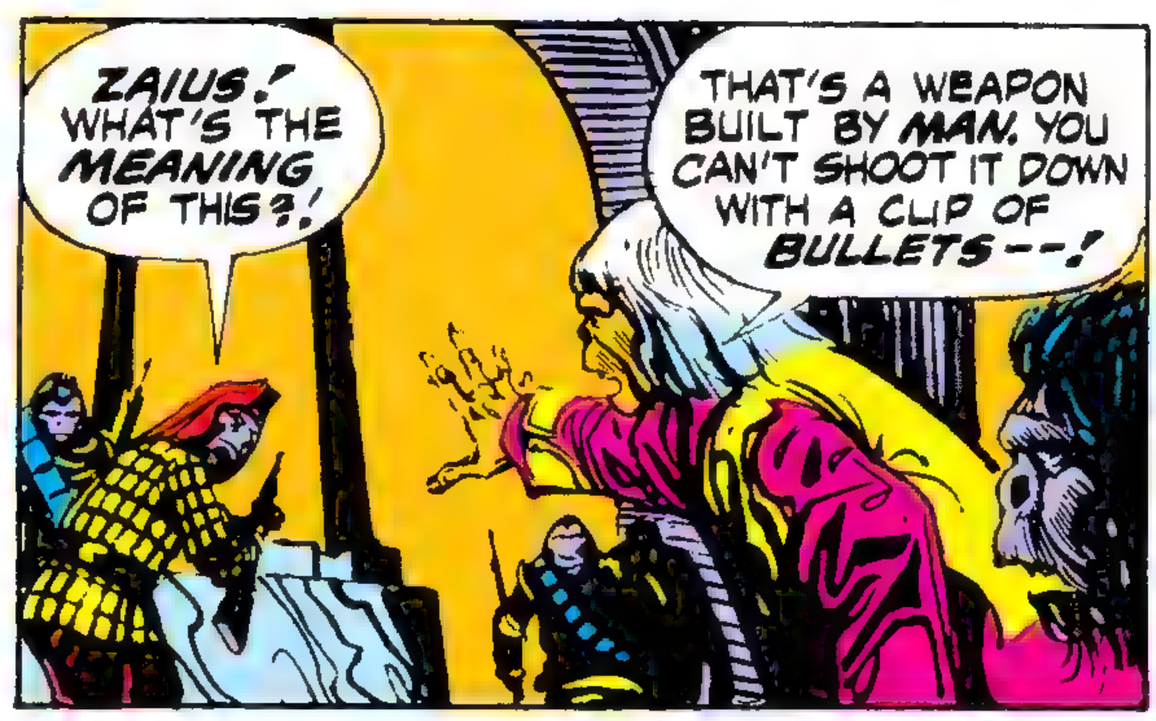
NO--! MY GOD--!
I MUST ACTIVATE MY--

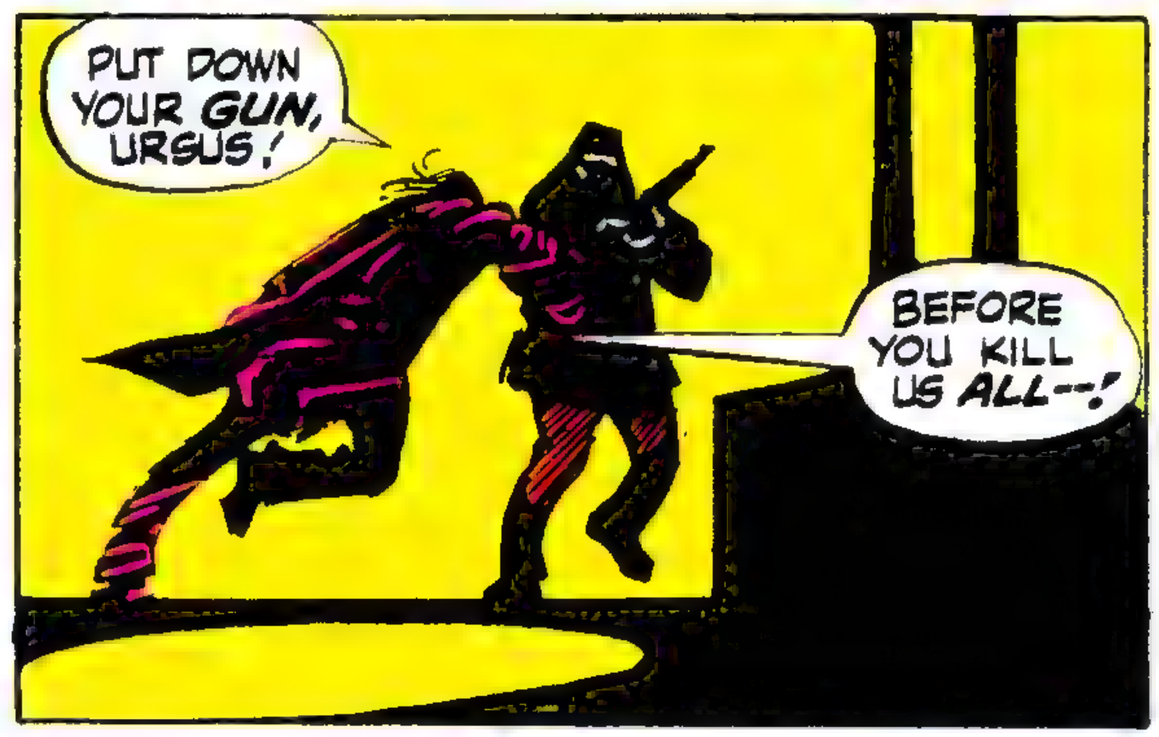
BLAM!

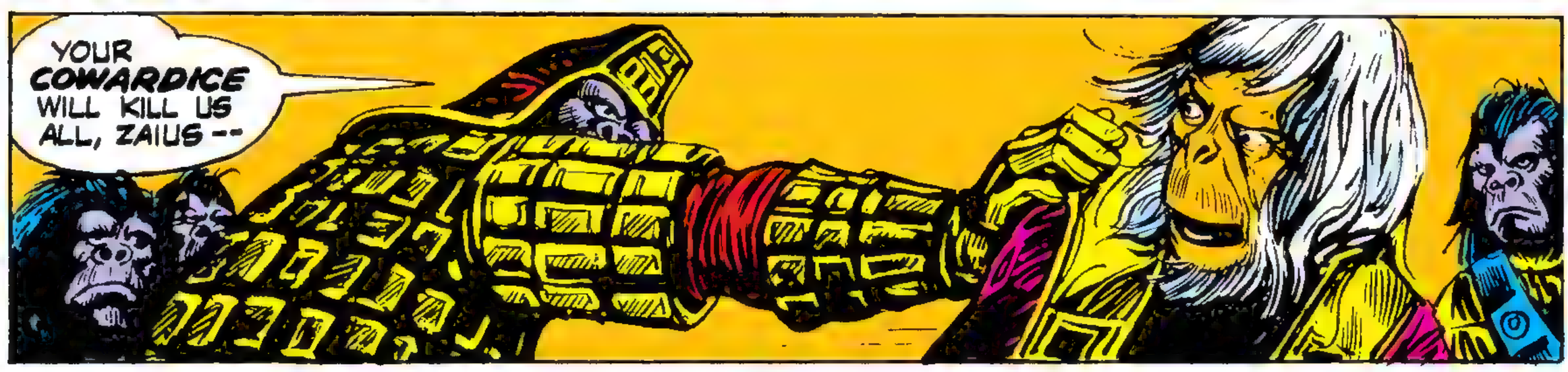
HAH! SO MUCH FOR THE TALKING HUMAN--!

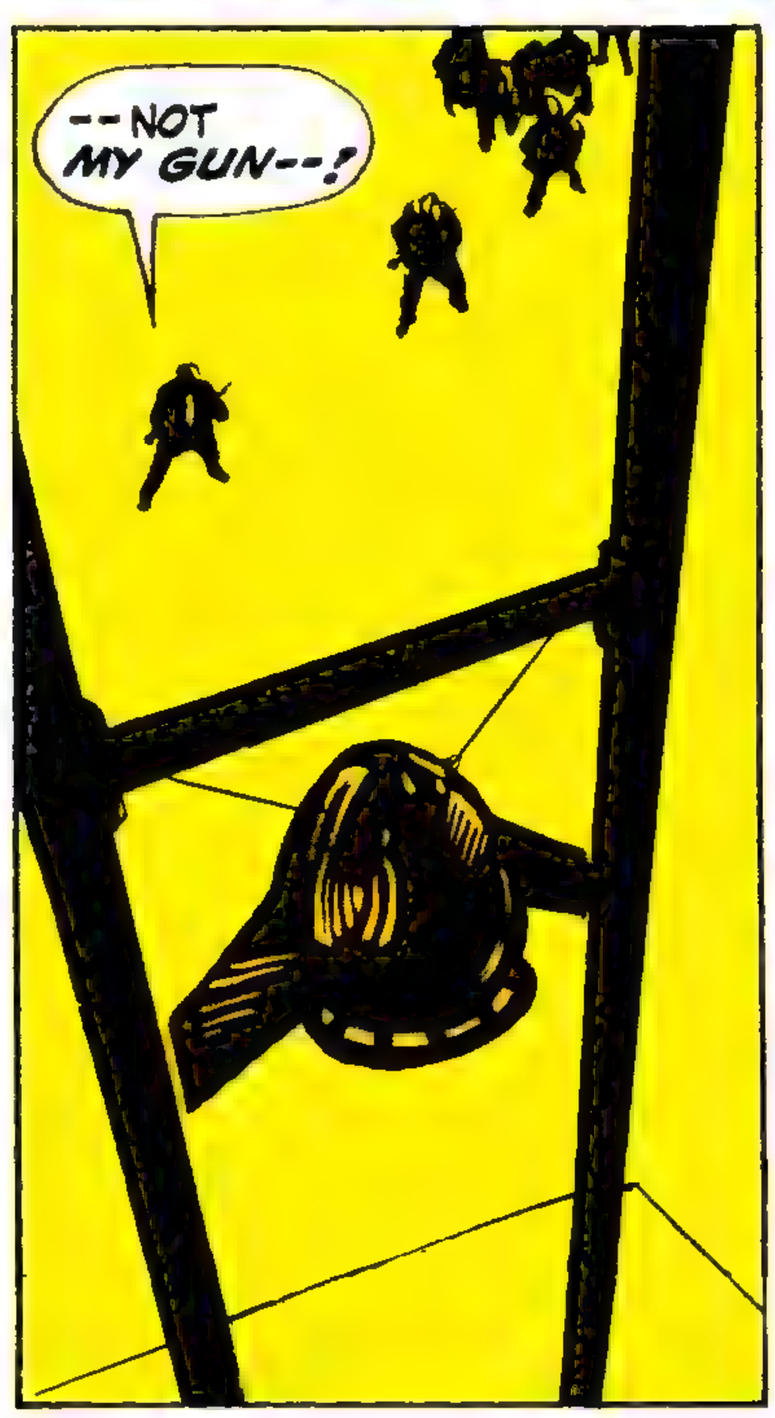
-- AND NOW WE'LL SEE ABOUT HIS "GOD"!

URSUS--! STOP, YOU FOOL!


ZAIUS! WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?!
THAT'S A WEAPON BUILT BY MAN. YOU CAN'T SHOOT IT DOWN WITH A CLIP OF BULLETS--!


PUT DOWN YOUR GUN, URSUS!
BEFORE YOU KILL US ALL--!


YOUR COWARDICE WILL KILL US ALL, ZAIUS --

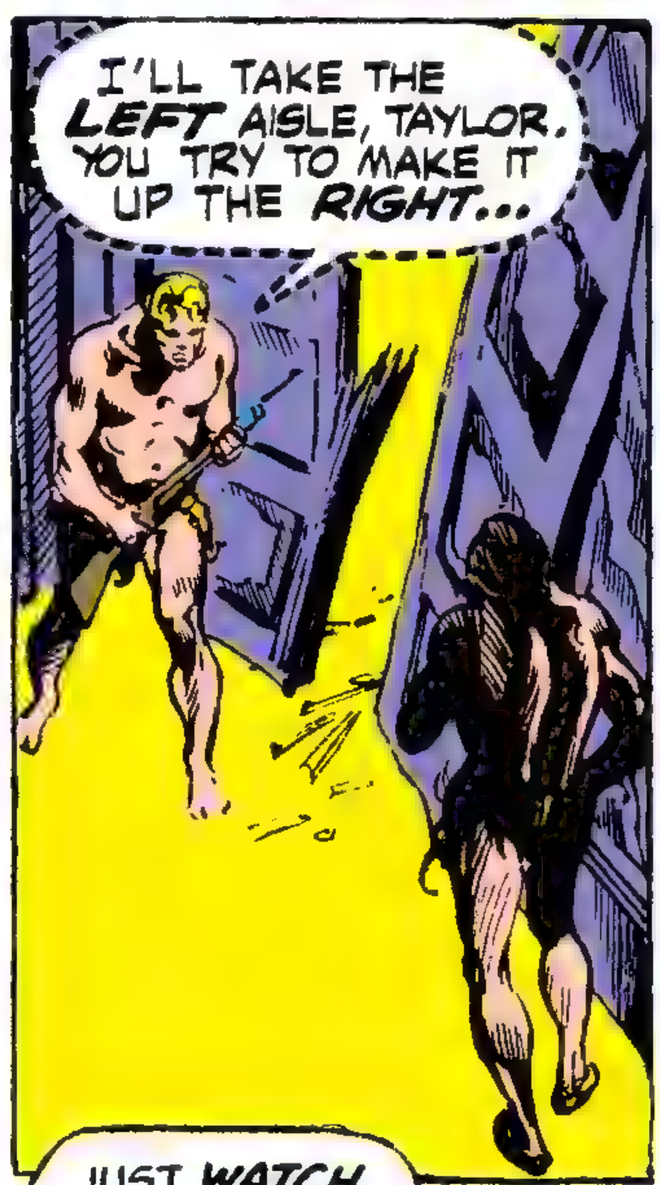

--NOT MY GUN--!

BRAK-AK-AK-
AK-AK!

SPANG
PANG
PANG
PANG
PANG

IF WE CAN'T SHOOT IT DOWN, WE'LL HAUL IT DOWN!
GET THE ROPE AND TACKLE!
URSUS, YOU'RE MAD. WE CAN'T FIGHT THAT WEAPON! WE MUST LEAVE THIS--

SILENCE, ZAIUS! ANOTHER WORD AND I'LL PLACE YOU UNDER MILITARY ARREST!


I'LL TAKE THE LEFT AISLE, TAYLOR. YOU TRY TO MAKE IT UP THE RIGHT...

THAT'S IT--PULL!
HARDER--!

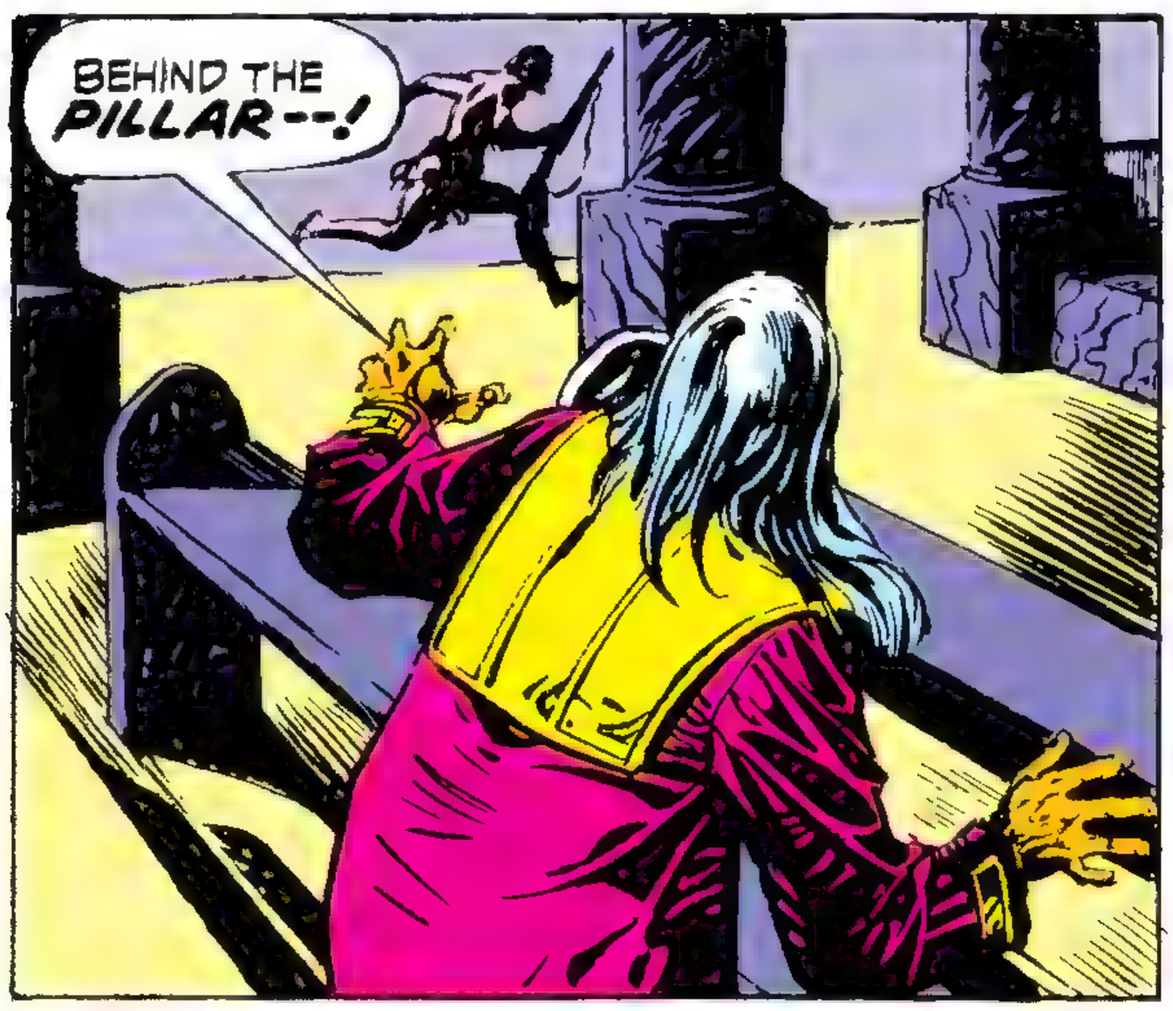
JUST WATCH US, ZAIUS! PULL, GORILLAS ...PULL!

EVEN HARDER-- BRING IT DOWN!

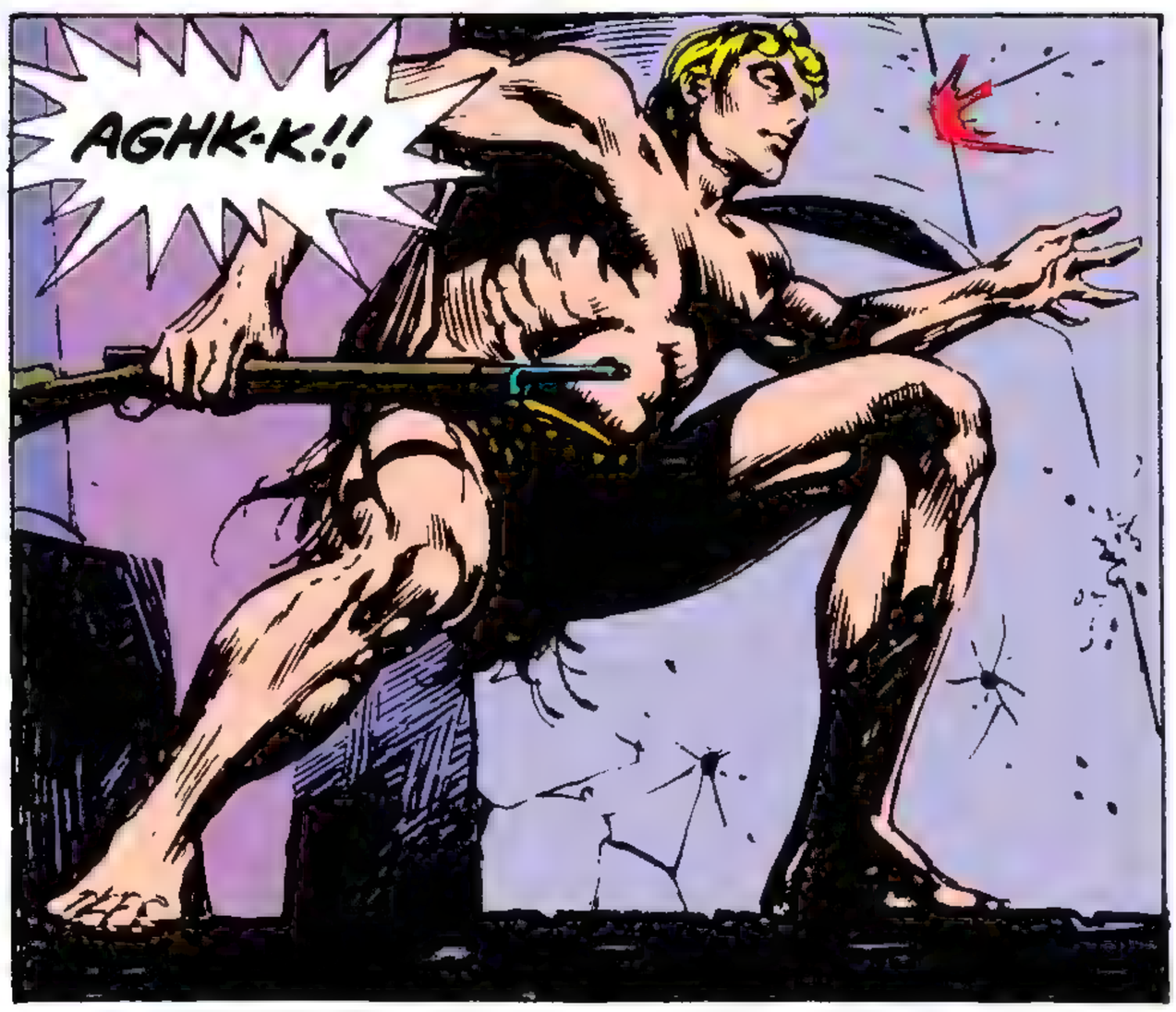
THAT'S IT-- HARDER! IT'S COMING--!

YOU'RE DOING IT--! HEAVE! HEAVE!

URSUS--!


BEHIND THE PILLAR--!

BRAK-AK-AK!

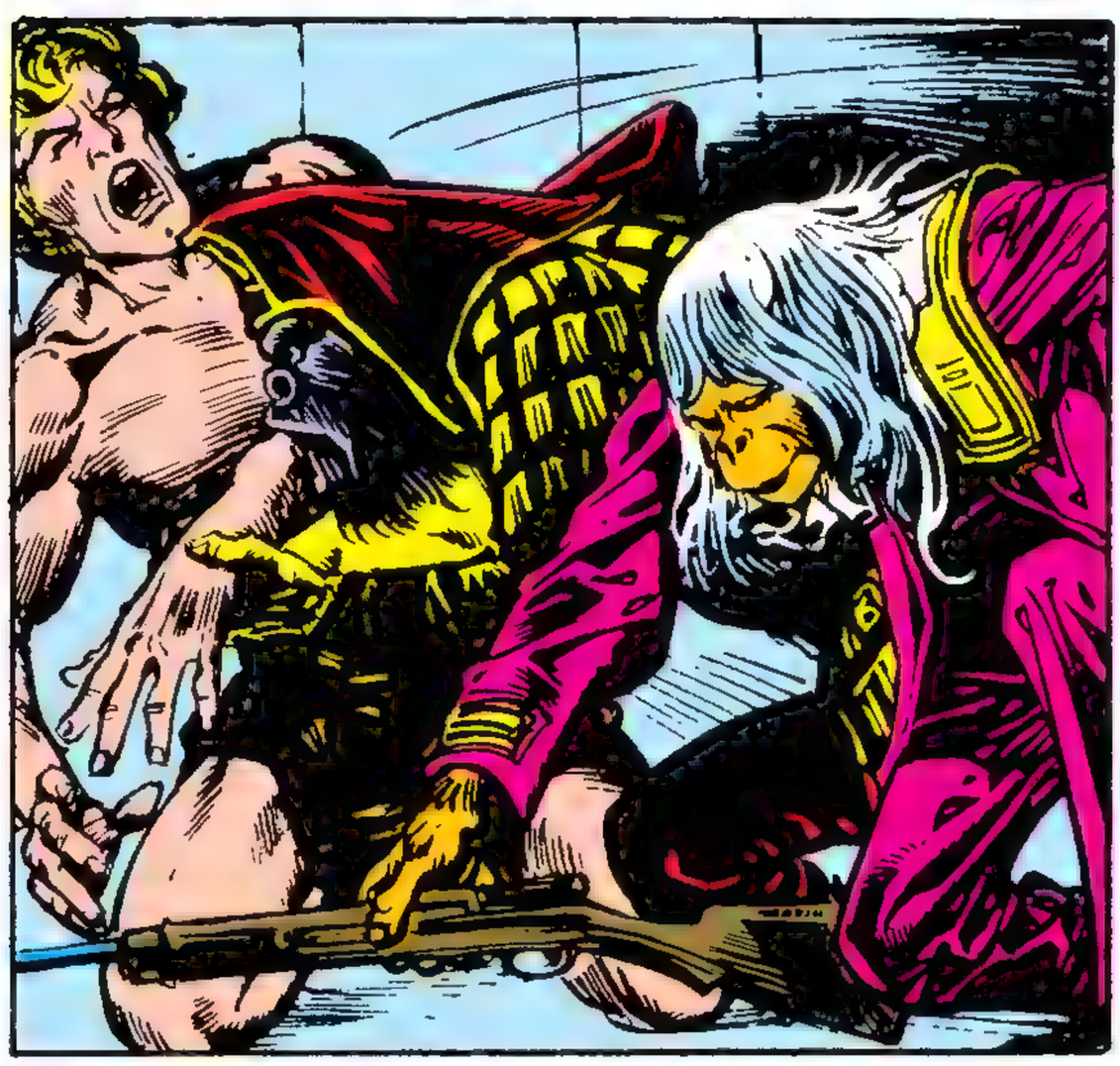

AGHK-K!!

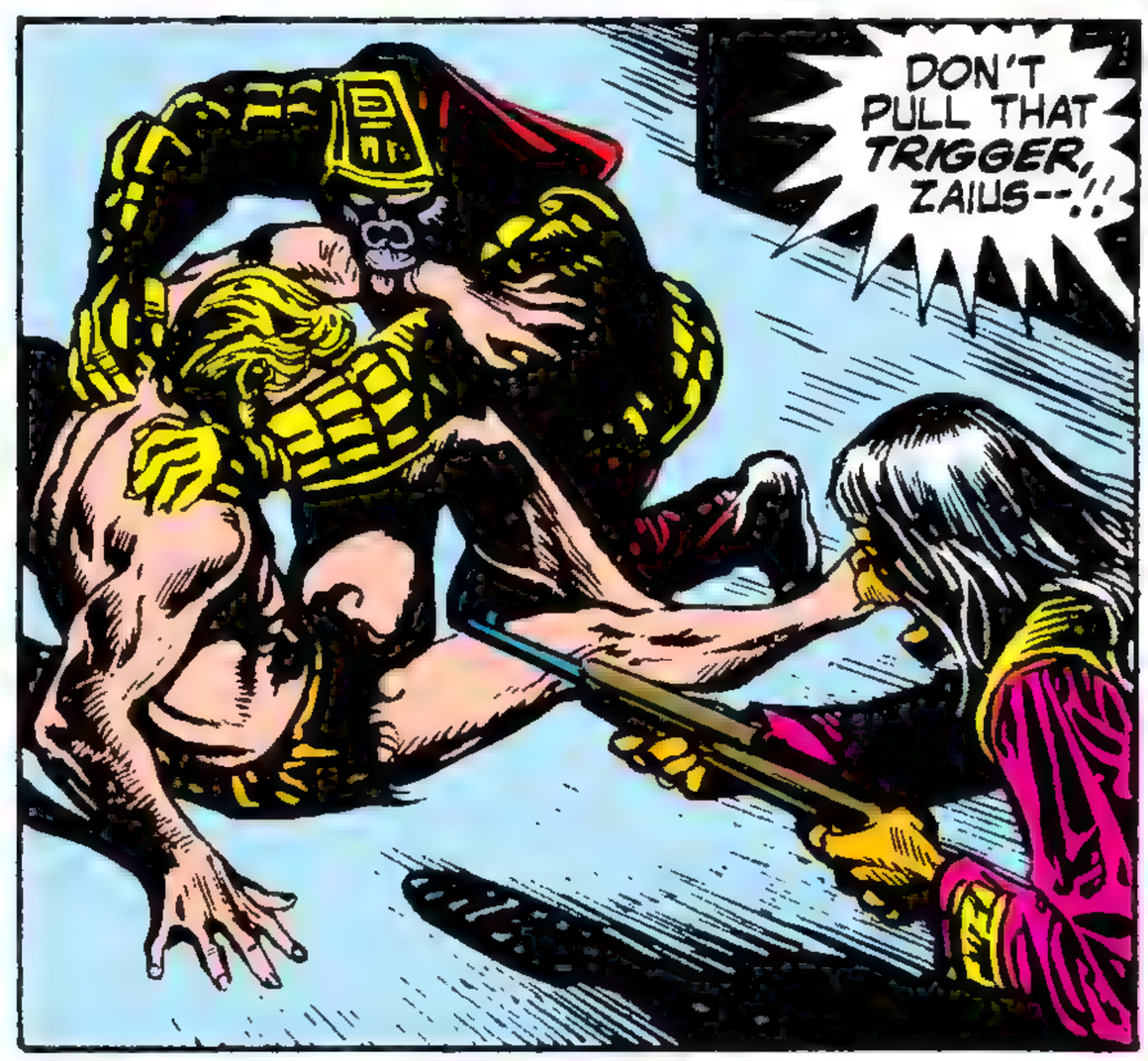
HE'S NOT DEAD, URSUS--!

KLIK
KLIK
KLIK

RAWRRR

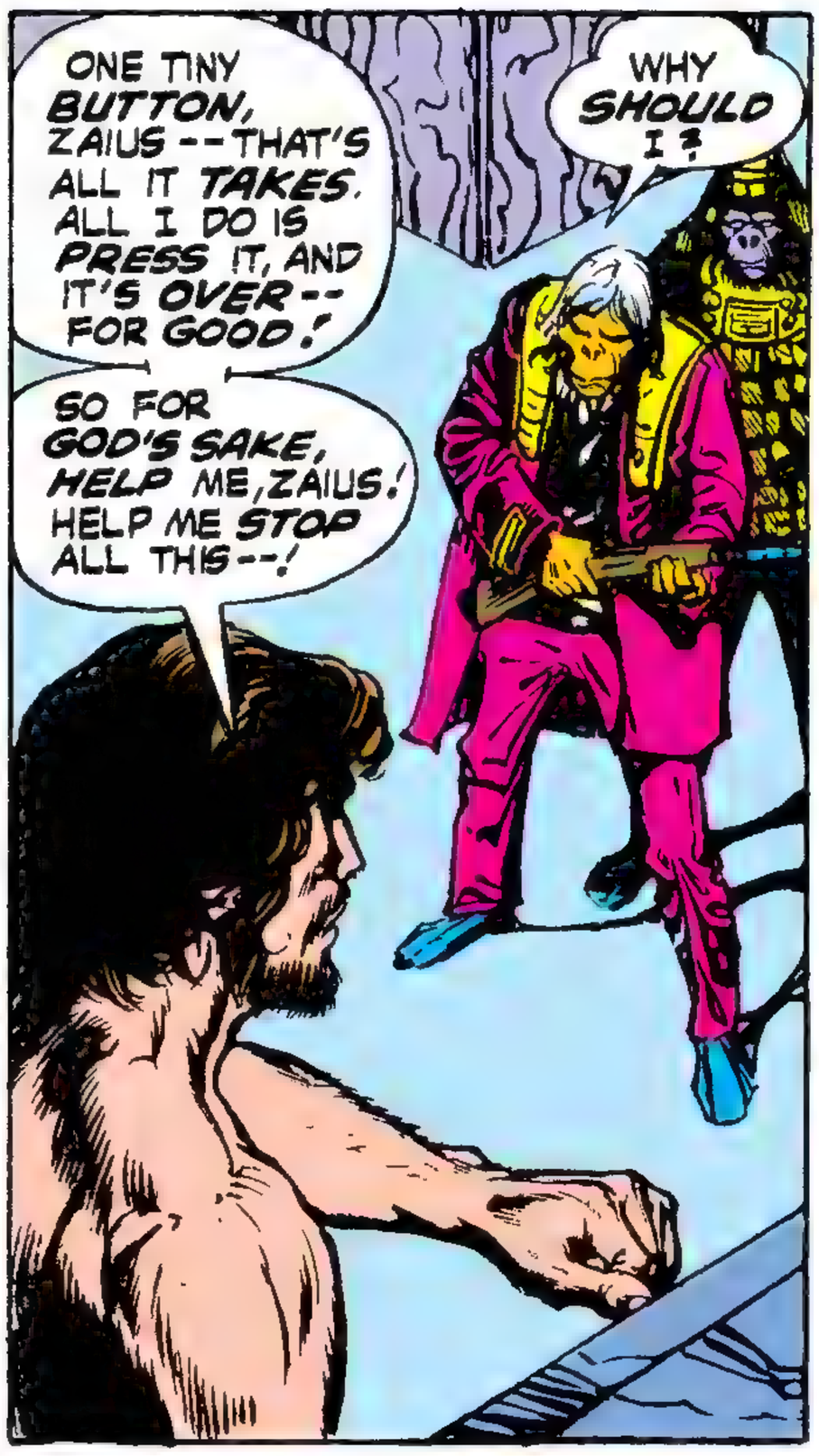
YAHG-G!!




DON'T PULL THAT TRIGGER, ZAIUS--!!

--OR IT'S DOOMSDAY. THE END OF THE WORLD, ZAIUS --

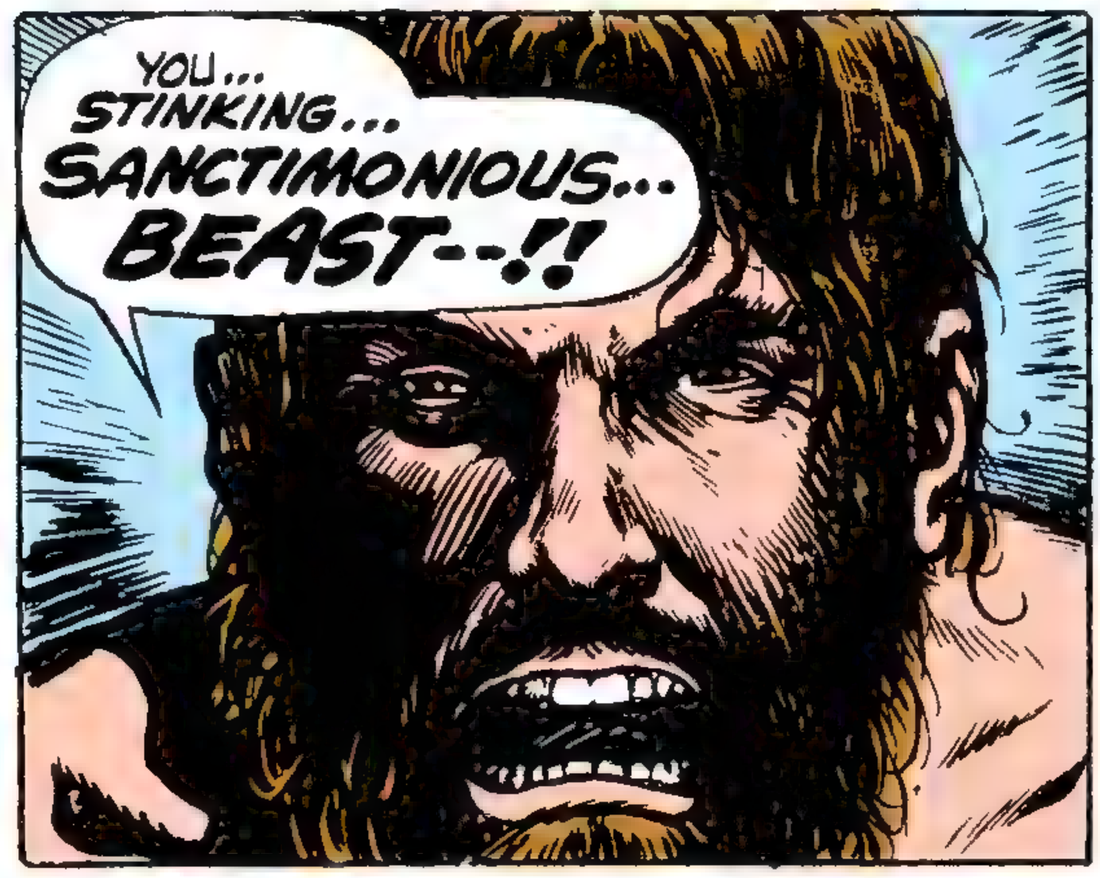
-- AND YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.


ONE TINY BUTTON, ZAIUS--THAT'S ALL IT TAKES. ALL I DO IS PRESS IT, AND IT'S OVER--FOR GOOD!
WHY SHOULD I?
SO FOR GOD'S SAKE, HELP ME, ZAIUS! HELP ME STOP ALL THIS--!

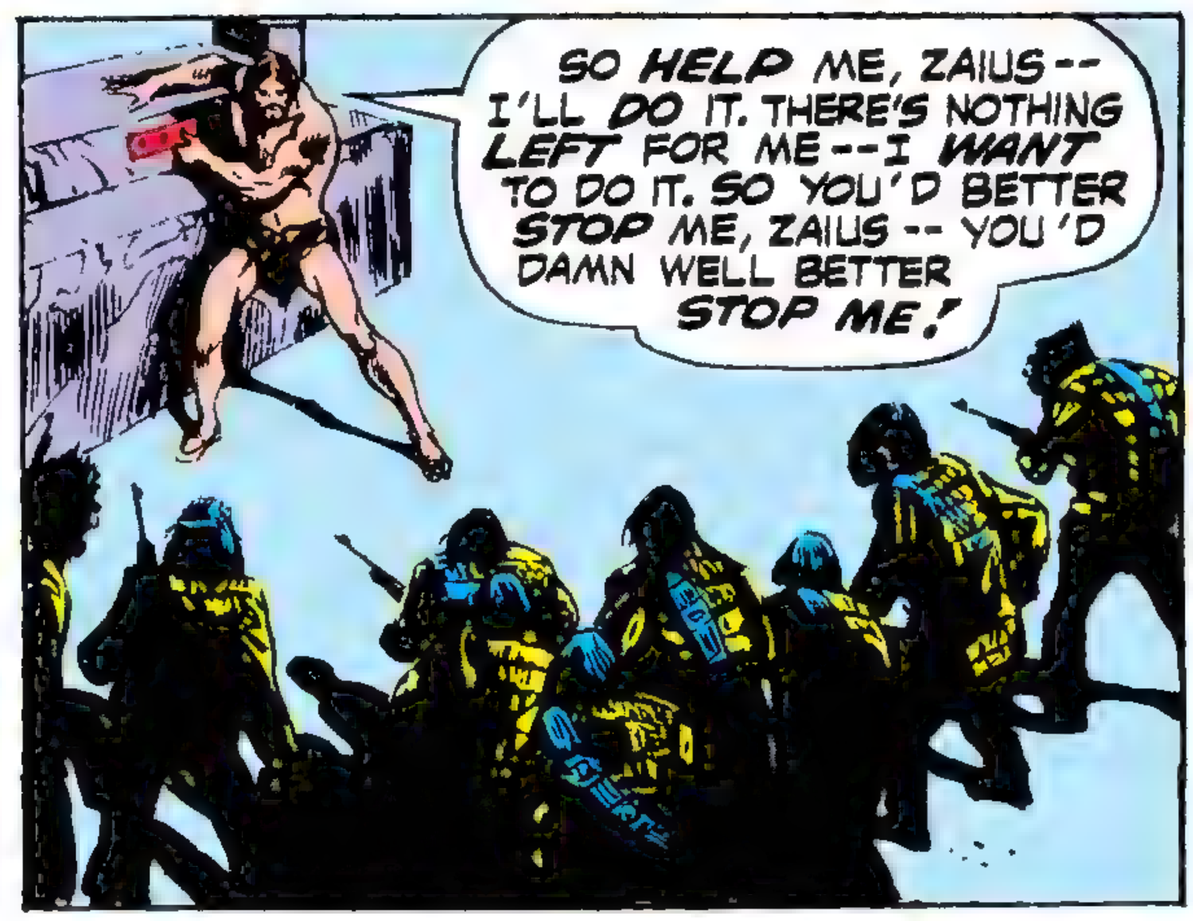
YOU DAMNED DIRTY ANIMAL--!

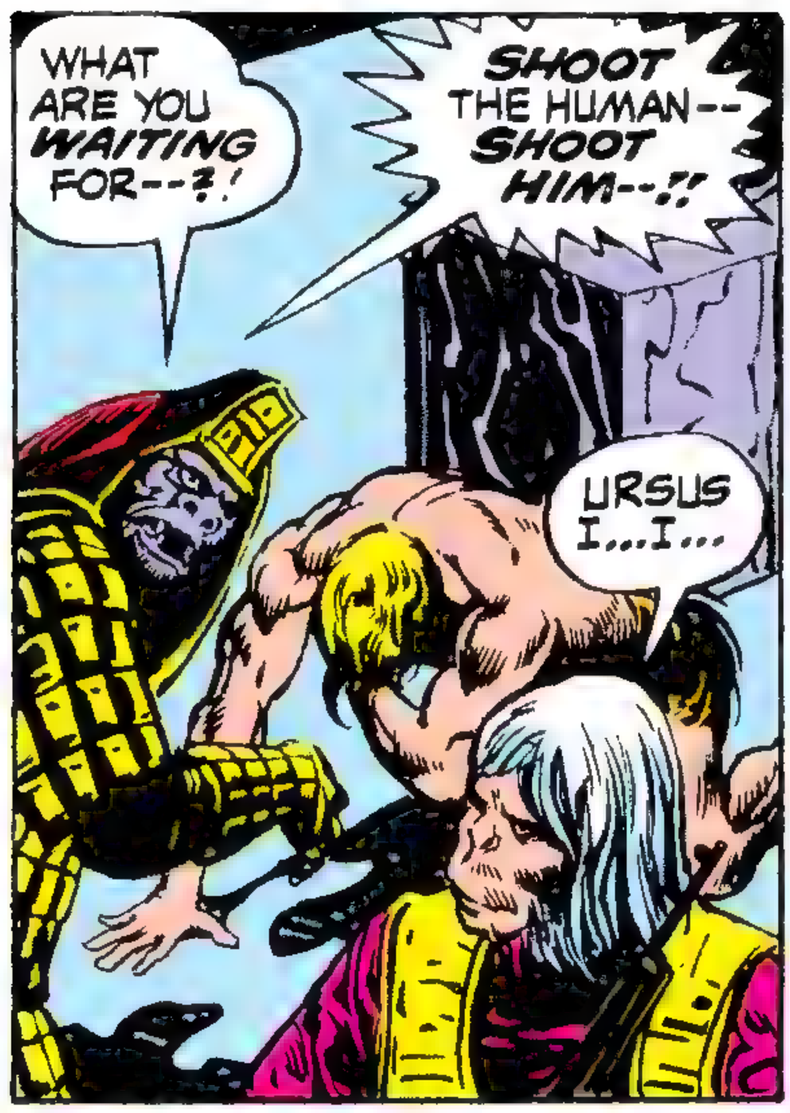
DON'T TOUCH THE BUTTON, TAYLOR--!!
THEN HELP ME. LET BRENT GO. CONVINCE URSUS TO LET ME DISMANTLE THE BOMB--PERMANENTLY. HELP ME, ZAIUS--YOU MUST.

YOU ASK ME TO HELP YOU. BUT MAN IS EVIL--CAPABLE OF NOTHING BUT DESTRUCTION. SHOULD I, THEN, HELP YOU TO DESTROY?

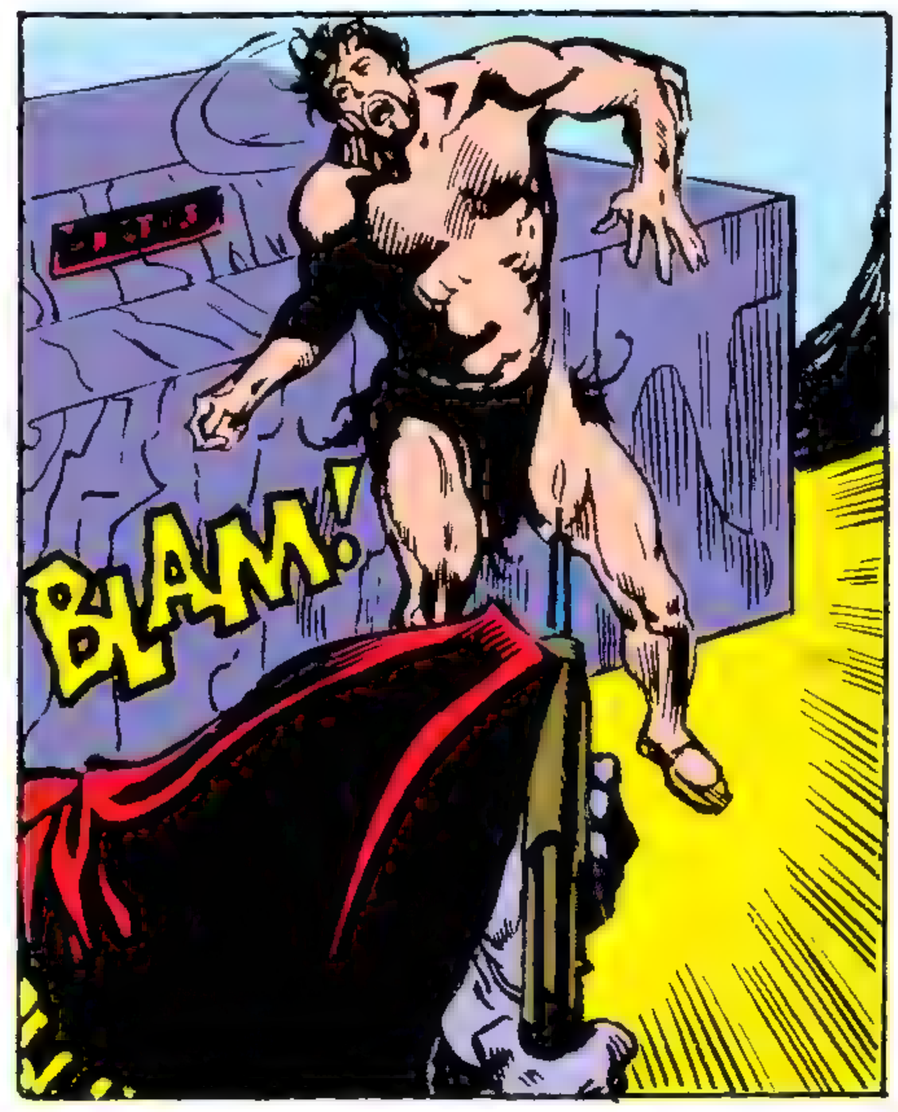

YOU... STINKING... SANCTIMONIOUS... BEAST--!!

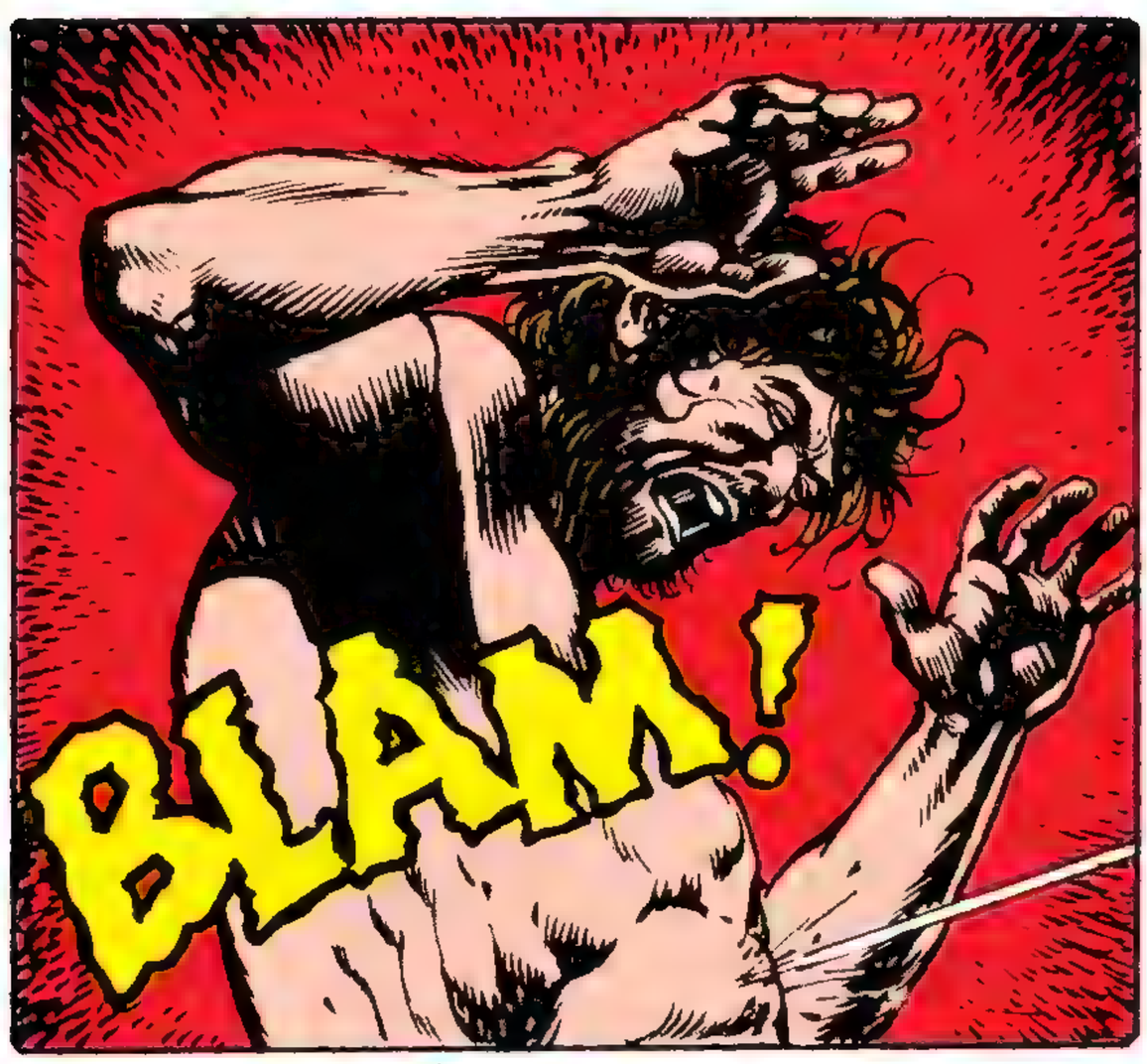
NO, TAYLOR--YOU ARE THE BEAST. YOU ARE THE DESTROYER.
BUT THE DESTROYER HIMSELF MUST INEVITABLY BE DESTROYED.

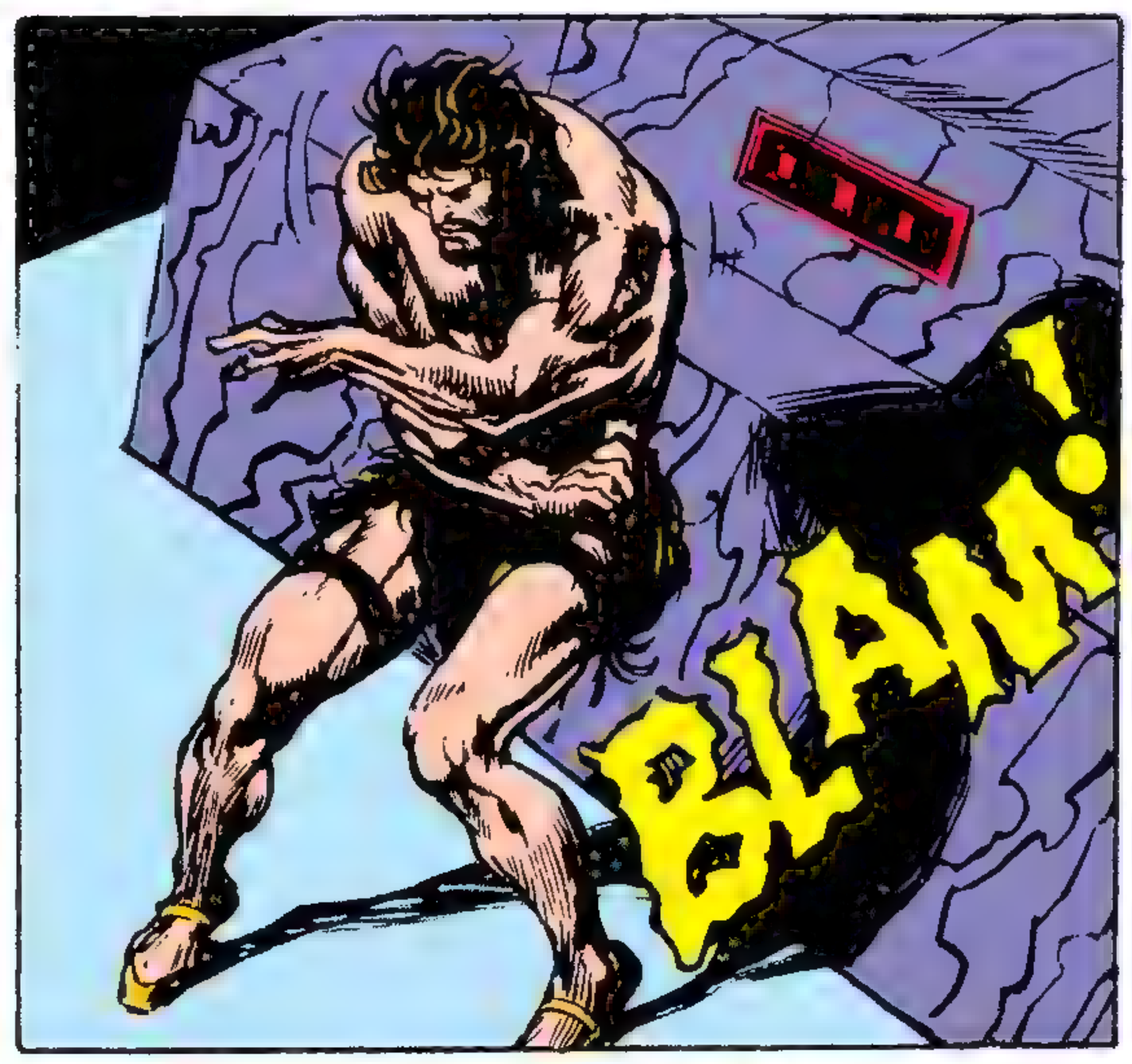

SO HELP ME, ZAIUS--I'LL DO IT. THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR ME--I WANT TO DO IT. SO YOU'D BETTER STOP ME, ZAIUS--YOU'D DAMN WELL BETTER STOP ME!


WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR--?!
SHOOT THE HUMAN-- SHOOT HIM--!!
URSUS I...I...

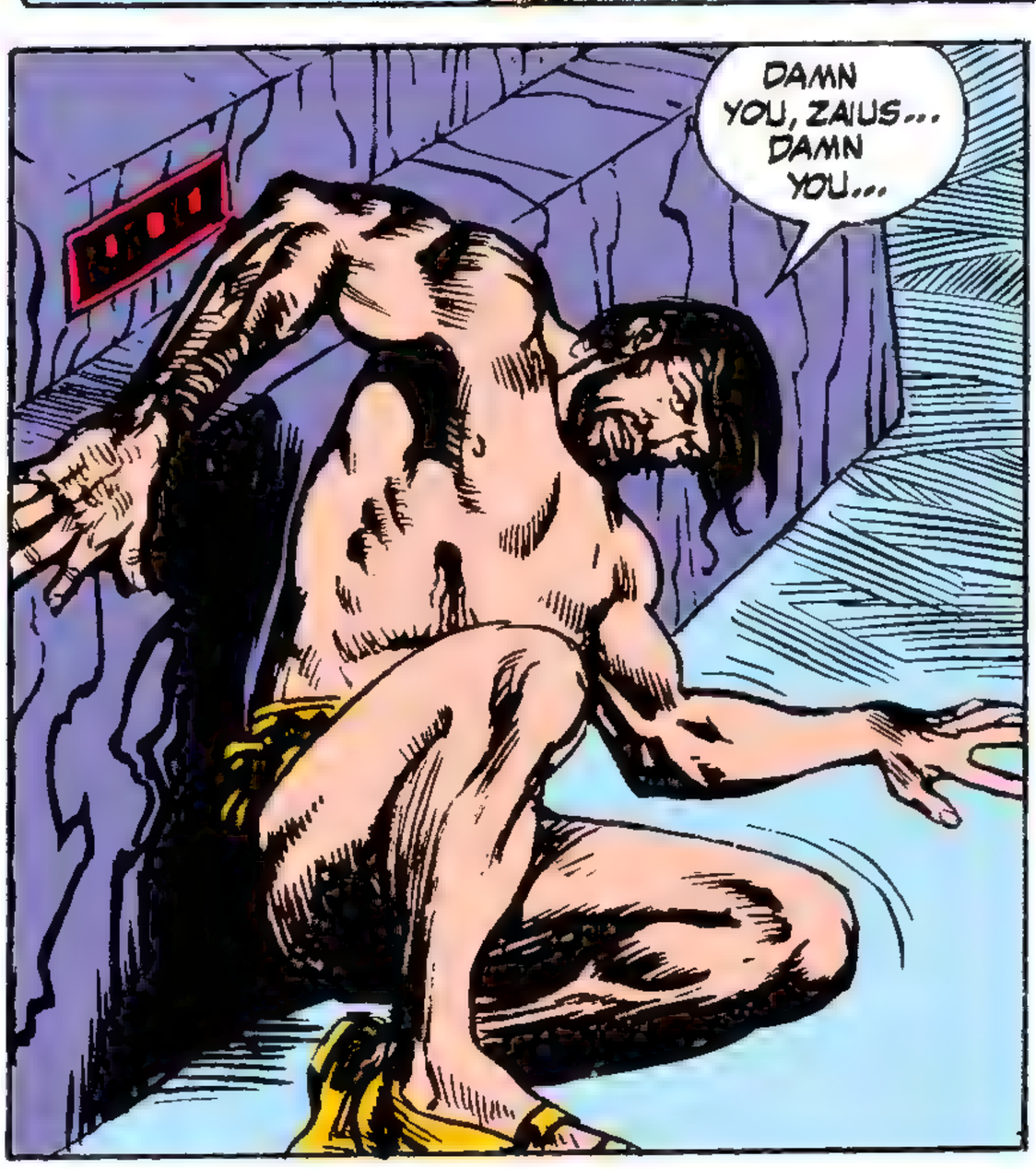
WEAKLING!!


BLAM!

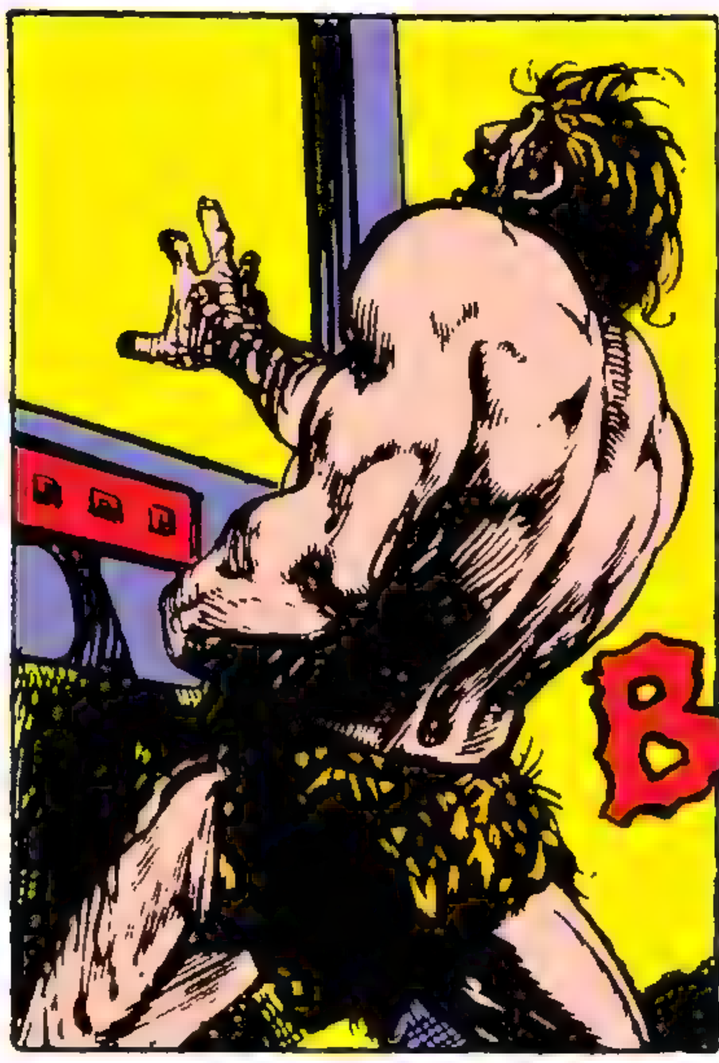

BLAM!

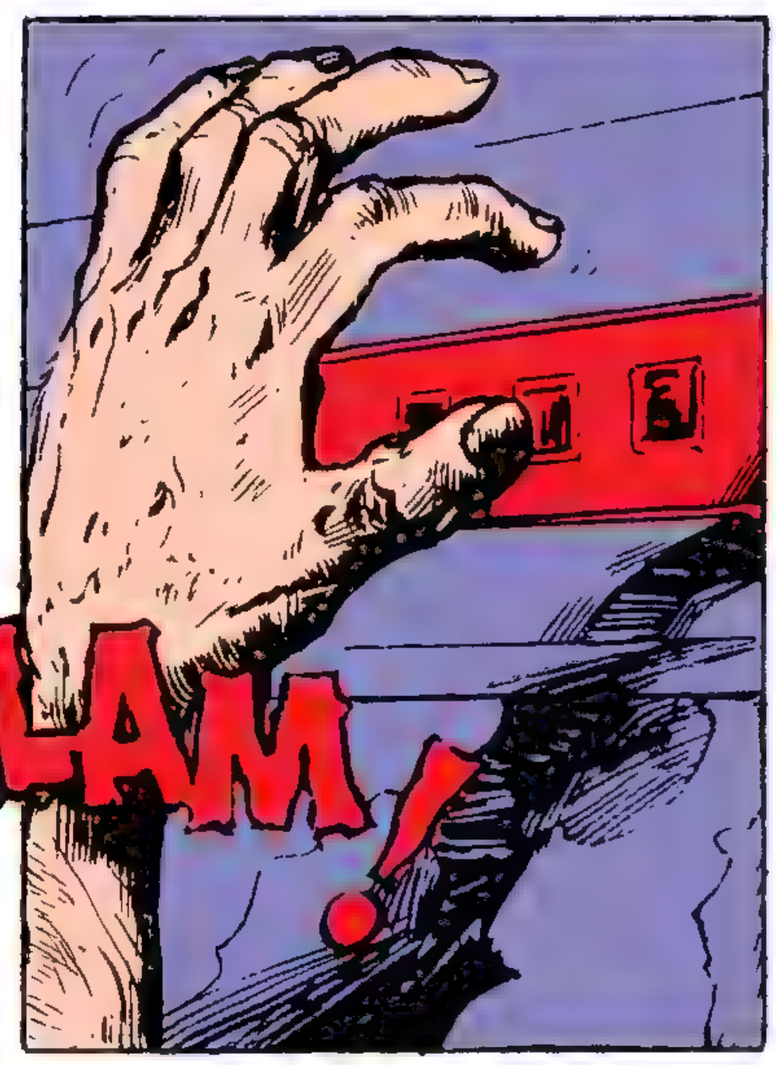

BLAM!

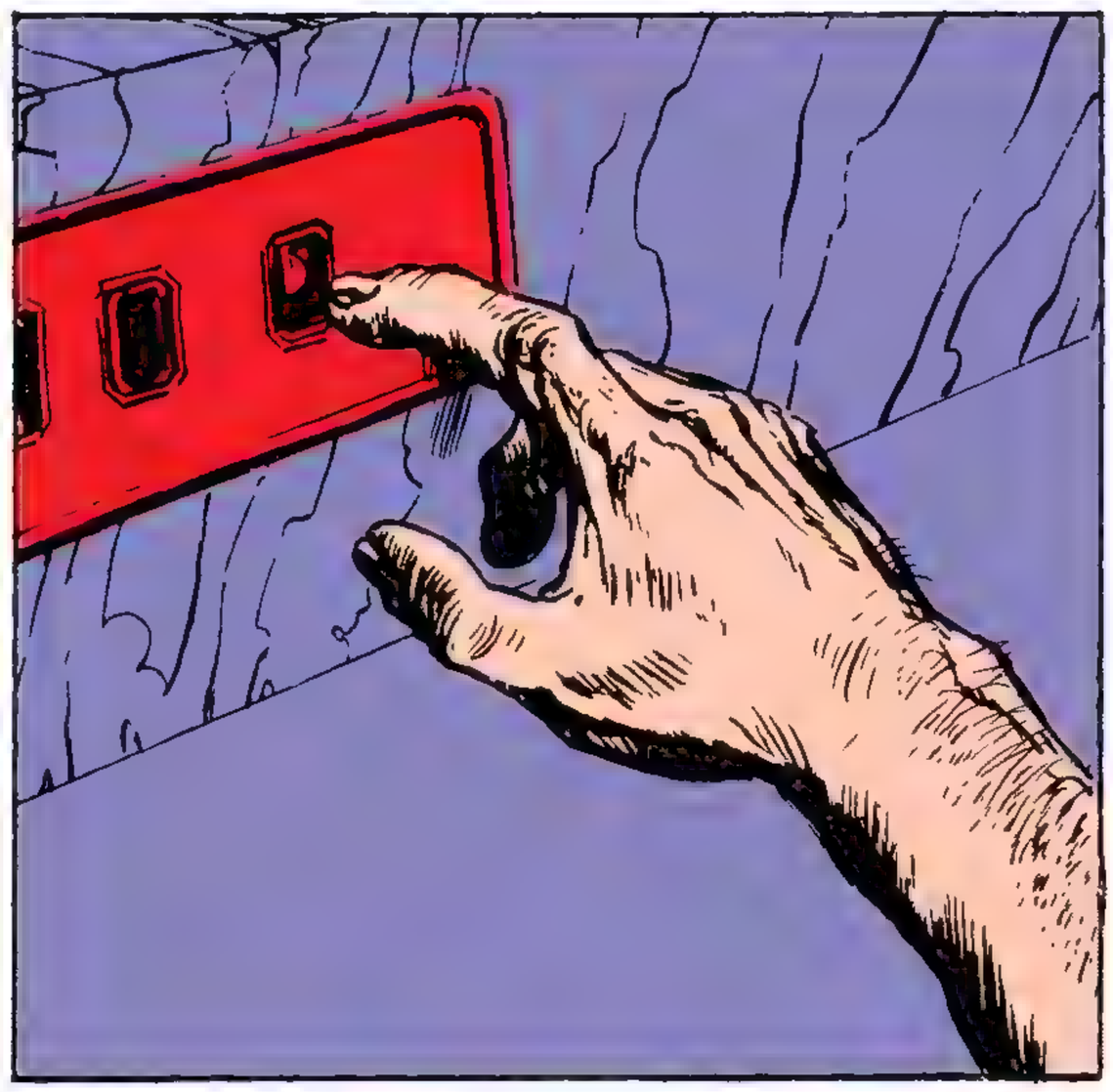
BLAM!


DAMN YOU, ZAIUS... DAMN YOU...

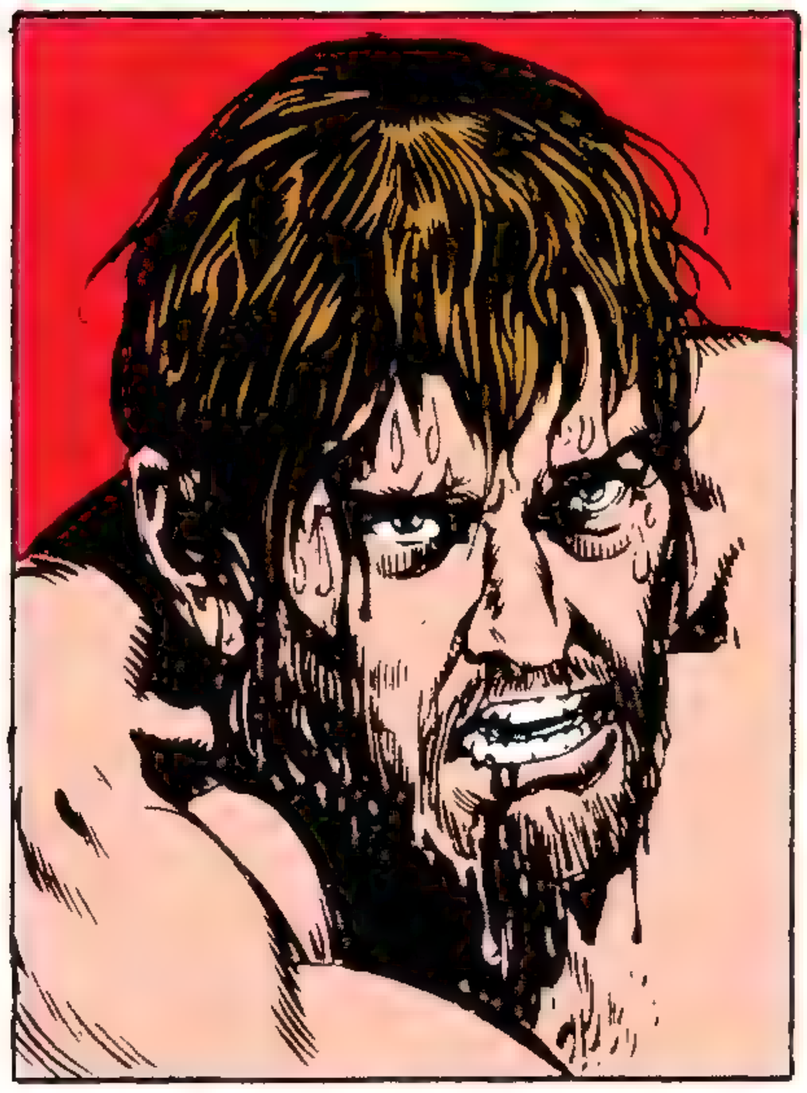
...YOU COULD HAVE... STOPPED... HIM... COULD HAVE--



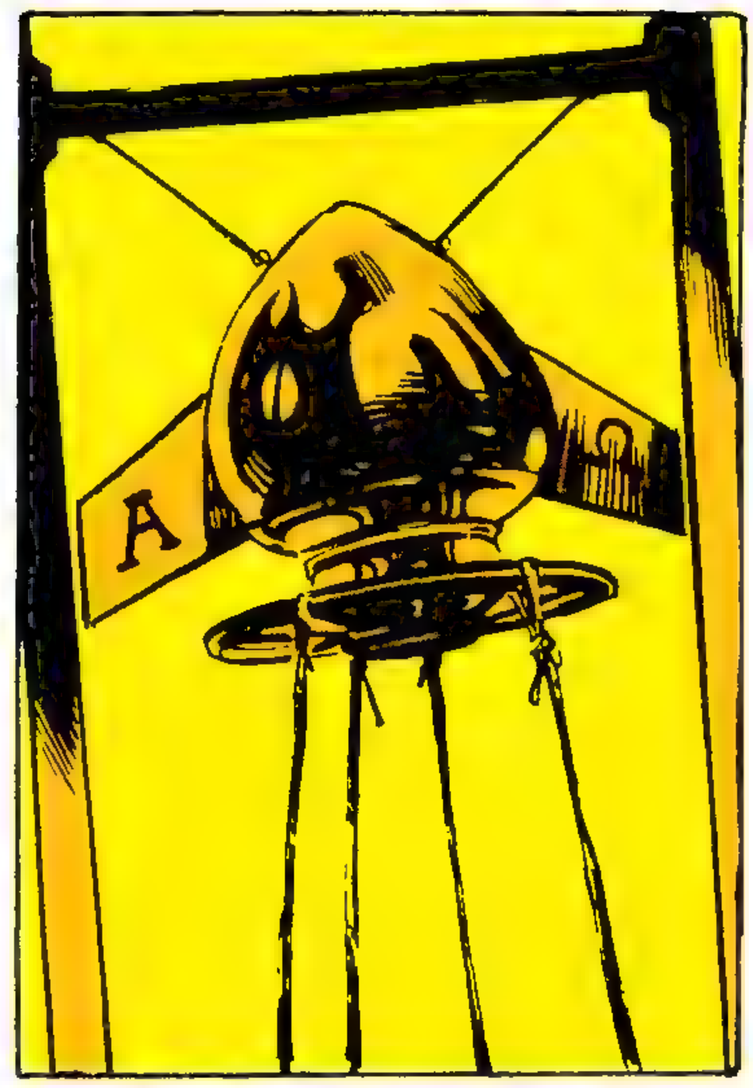

BLAM!



WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM? HOW CAN HE GO ON--? I HIT HIM FIVE TIMES--!
HE SHOULD BE--



TEK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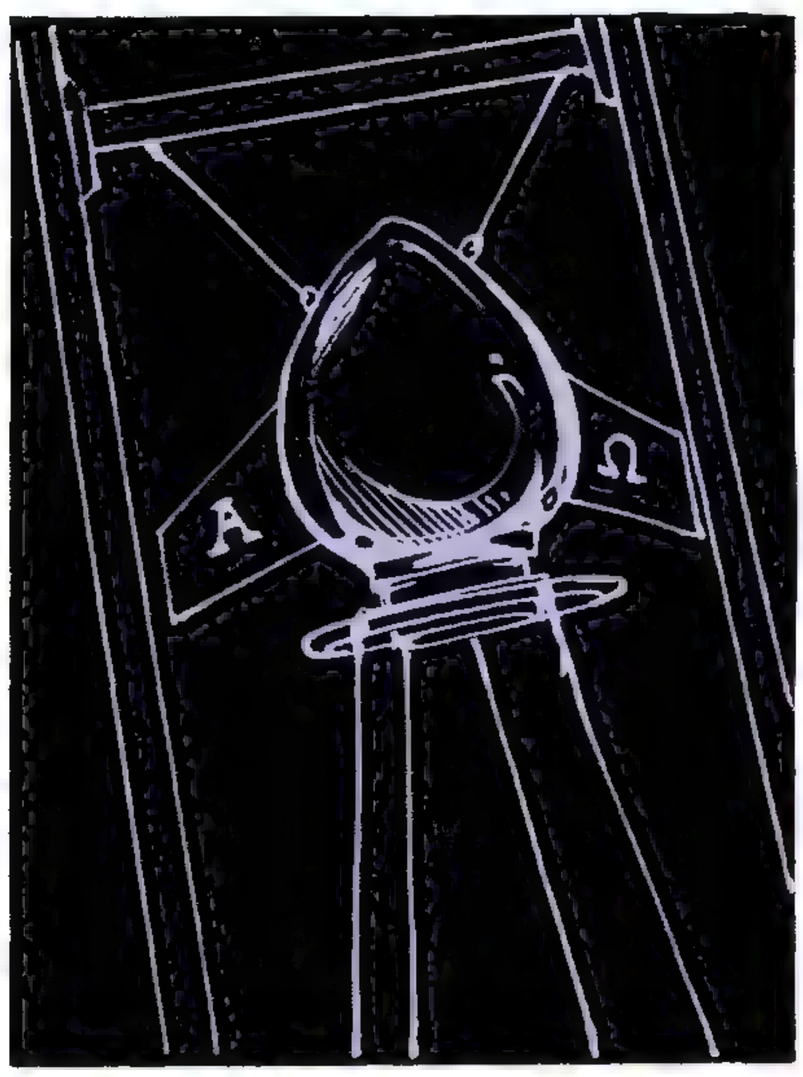
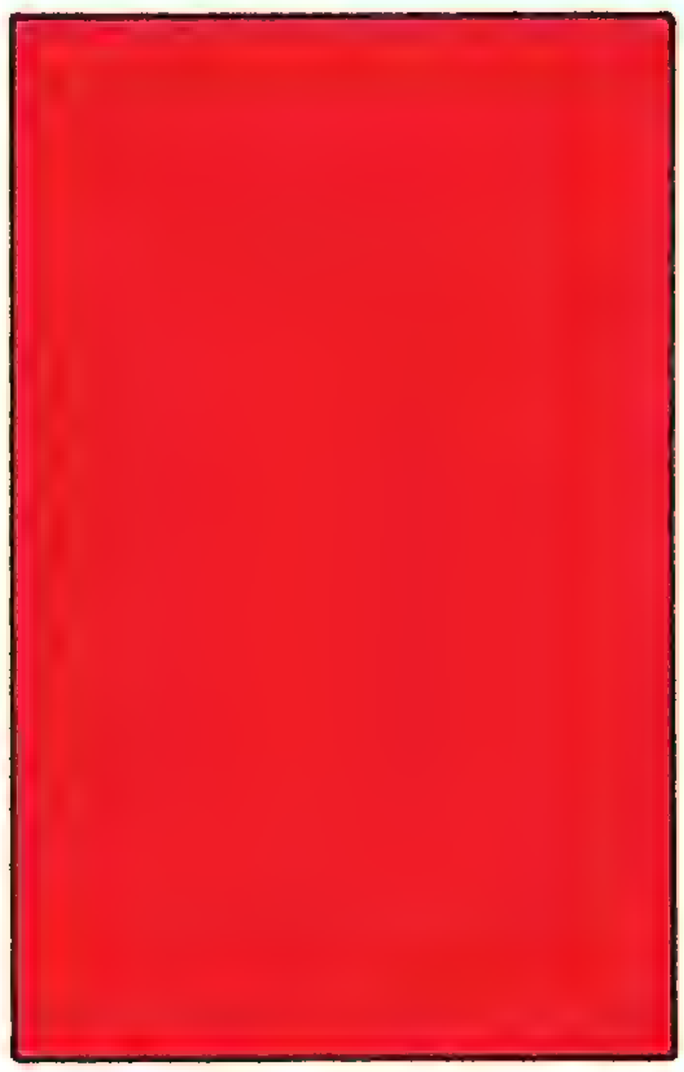
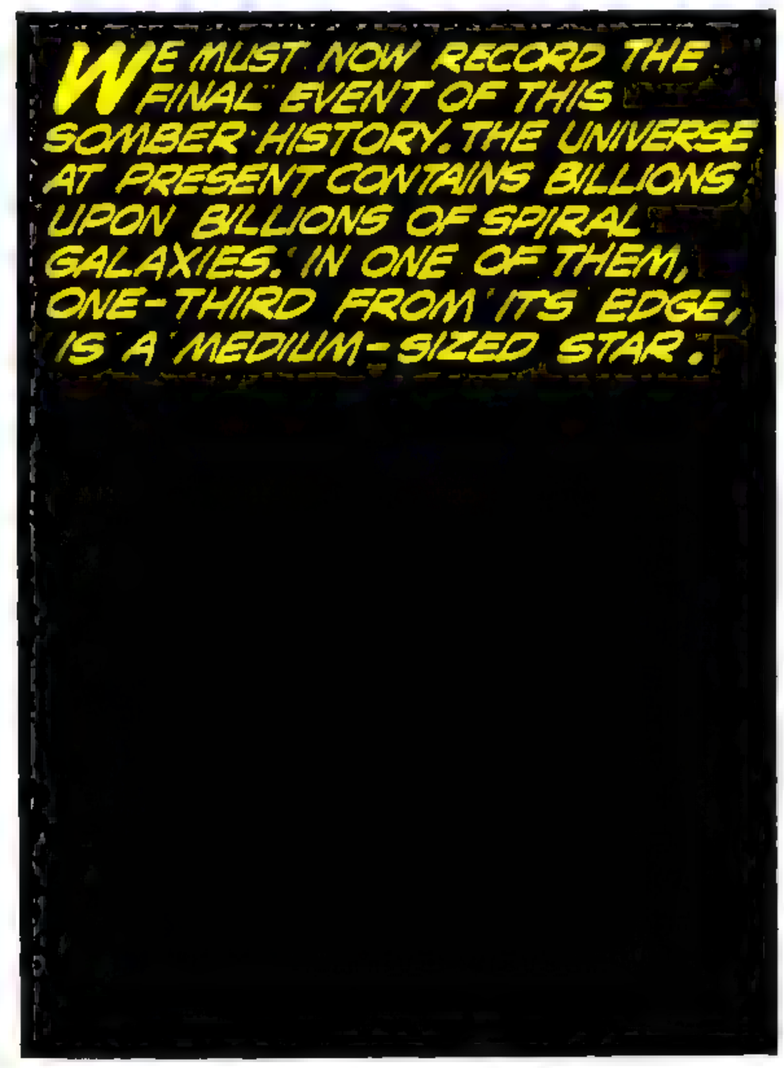
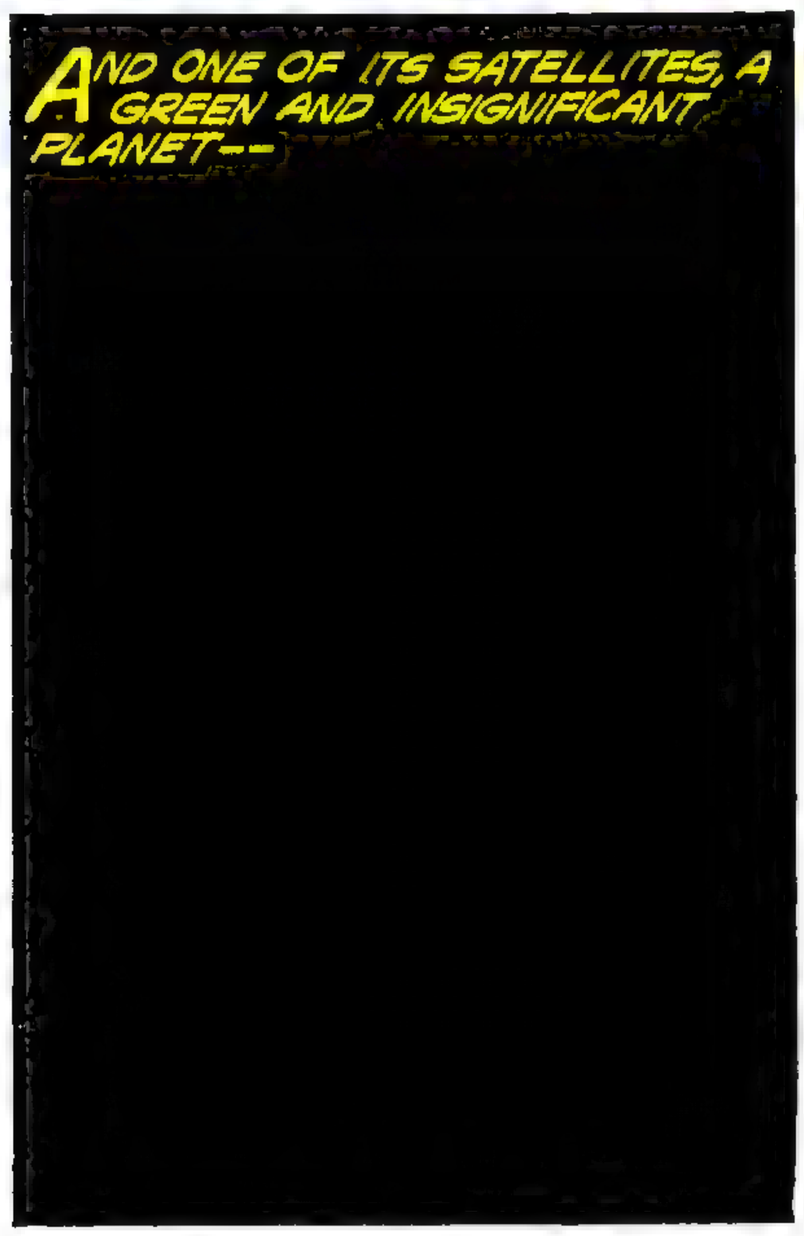
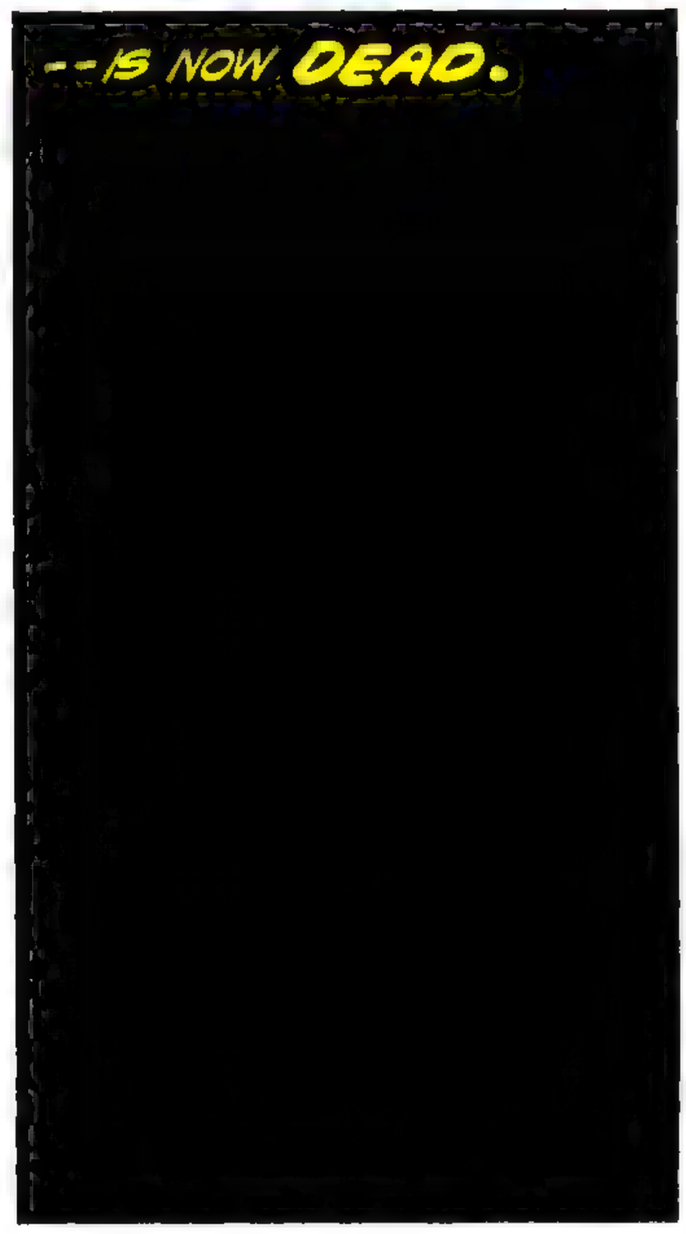
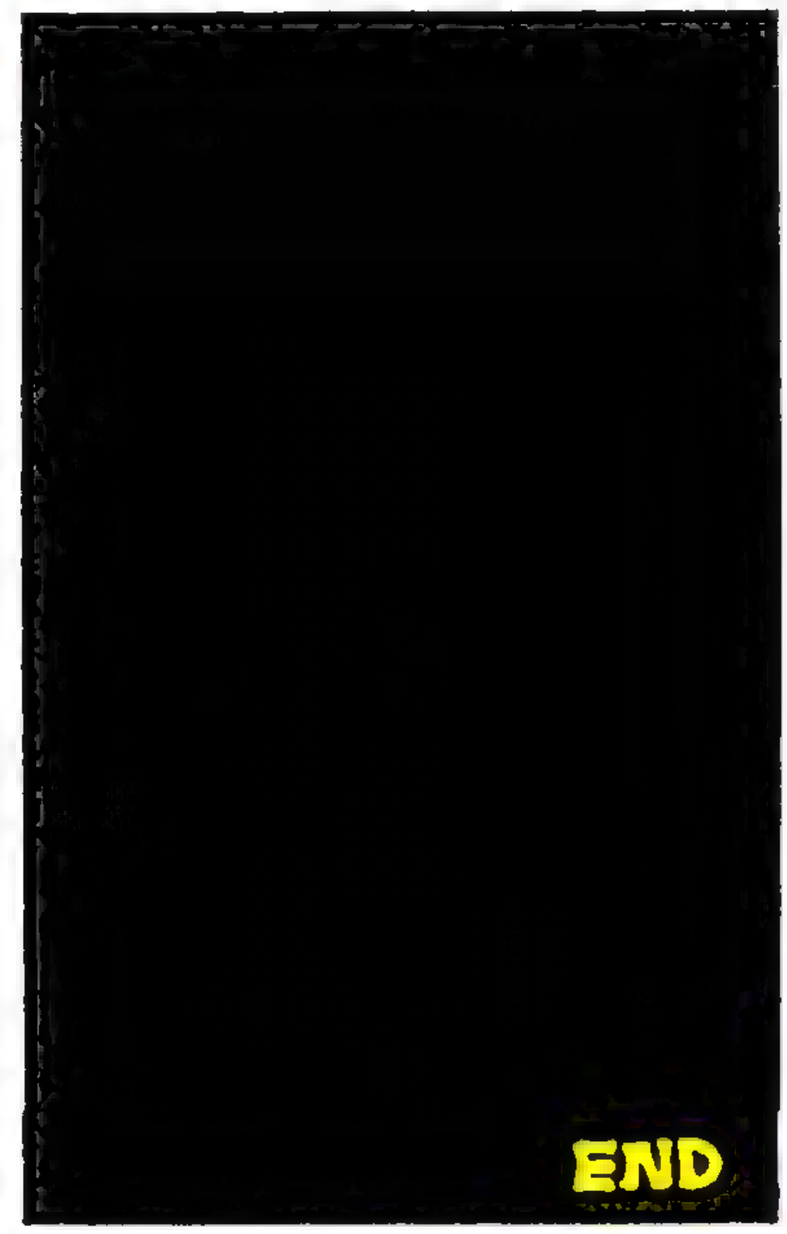

A
Ω




WE MUST NOW RECORD THE FINAL EVENT OF THIS SOMBER HISTORY. THE UNIVERSE AT PRESENT CONTAINS BILLIONS UPON BILLIONS OF SPIRAL GALAXIES. IN ONE OF THEM, ONE-THIRD FROM ITS EDGE, IS A MEDIUM-SIZED STAR.


AND ONE OF ITS SATELLITES, A GREEN AND INSIGNIFICANT PLANET--


--IS NOW DEAD.


END

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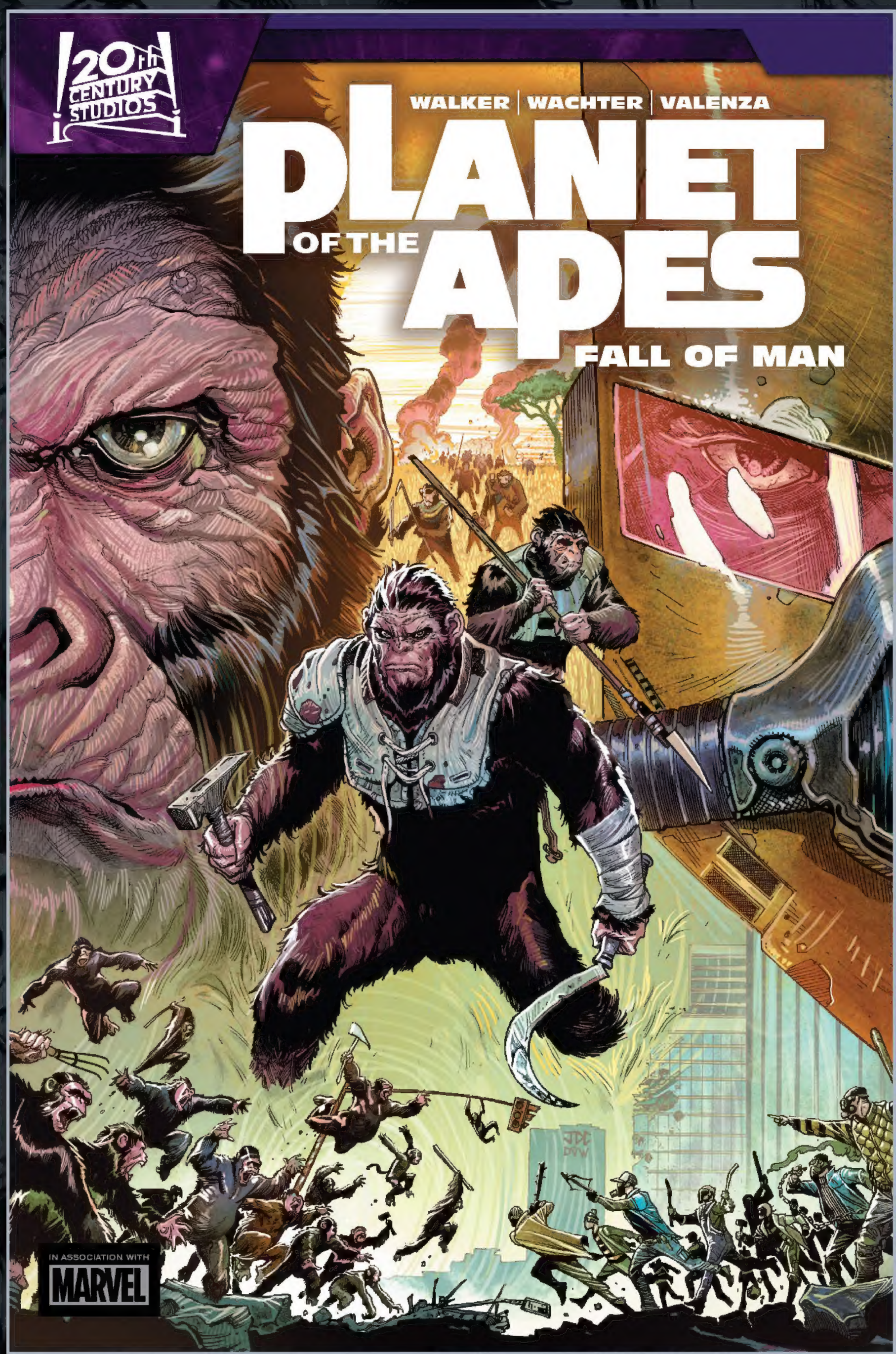

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